

Incarnation

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INCARNATION - CHRIST THE KING

Christ the King

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FAQS: Building a new Parish from Incarnation and Christ the King

Q: Will the parishes of Christ the King and Incarnation be merged to create a new, combined parish?

A: As of January 1, 2022, Fr Nick will be pastor of both Christ the King and Incarnation. He will be the pastor of the new combined parish. We are hoping that the official merger of the two parishes will be effective by July 1, 2022.

Q: Why are the parishes being merged?

A: To reflect changing realities of diminishing church attendance combined with a shortage of priests. The merger is designed as an important first step to better position our local church to meet the current and future needs of Wethersfield.

Q: What is the vision for the merger?

A: To establish a new, vibrant, welcoming, dynamic and growing parish, one which loves and honors God, respects, loves and welcomes all people, and makes disciples who change the world.

Q: What will be the name of the new combined parish?

A: To be determined. When Corpus Christi, Sacred Heart and St. Luke merged into Christ the King in 2017, we knew the possibility of further consolidation existed. And so while it makes sense to see this merger as having Incarnation join with Corpus Christi, Sacred Heart and St. Luke as Christ the King, and while it makes sense from a legal and canonical perspective as well, the Transition Team will have input into the final decision.

Q: Will the name of our churches change?

A: No. The names of the church buildings will remain the same, and will be used to identify the campus locations that form the one combined Parish.

Q: Will the churches of Christ the King and Incarnation remain open?

A: Yes. Both church buildings will remain open. Each church building will be a campus of the combined Parish. The current Mass schedules at each church will continue for 2022, but will be streamlined for 2023.

Q: What priests will staff the new parish?

A: We will be fortunate to have three priests ministering during 2022. Fr. Nick will be the Pastor. Fr. Moran will be the Senior Parochial Vicar. And Fr. George will be the Parochial Vicar. Fr. Moran will retire in February 2023, at which time only Fr. Nick and Fr. George will be serving our new Parish.

Q: Which church(es) will be available for sacraments and funerals?

A: Sacramental life will be available at Corpus Christi, Incarnation, and Sacred Heart churches.

Q: Will offices at both campuses remain open?

A: Yes, for now. As the merger evolves and progresses, office hours, availability, and locations will be developed to ensure the best possible service to our new parish community.

Q: What happens to the parishes' financial resources?

A: The financial resources of both parishes will be combined, and the Finance Councils, along with Archdiocesan guidance, will provide oversight of these processes.

Q: What other changes can we expect?

A: The merger will entail a number of 'behind-the-scenes' as well as more visible issues. For example, the Transition Team is serving as the Pastoral Council for the immediate time, and we will then hold an election to create a new Pastoral Council. The Finance Councils of both parishes are already meeting to prepare budgets for 2022. Because we have not legally merged yet, separate budgets need to be prepared, but in doing them together, they are anticipating one joint budget going forward.

The Faith Formation programs have merged for Middle and High School, and the Elementary School programs will merge for the Fall of 2022.

Mens' and Womens' groups, Social Action, and Building Committees are already joining forces as well. The intent is to have stronger and more efficient sustainable resources to carry us into the future.

Pastoral, administrative and ministry functions will be streamlined to more efficiently serve and support the combined parish.

Q: Where can I find updated merger information?

A: The Transition Team has a Communications Committee. They will be sharing information via the bulletin, the websites, Facebook ([facebook.com/ChristtheKingCT](https://www.facebook.com/ChristtheKingCT)), email, and announcements at Mass. If you have questions, please send an email to incarnation.ctk@gmail.com.