



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

PRESSRELEASE

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Bishop names diocese's newest parish Corpus Christi

Bishop Richard Pates announced during this morning's radio show "In the Heartland With Bishop Pates" that he is naming the diocese's newest parish Corpus Christi. The three Council Bluffs-area parishes of Holy Family, Queen of Apostles and Our Lady of Carter Lake will form the new Corpus Christi Parish with three worship sites effective July 1.

"This name Corpus Christi was chosen because it means Body of Christ," said Bishop Pates. "The name speaks to who we are, what we do and what we desire to become. The name itself is unifying."

The name was recommended by Deacon Bob McClellan. In his recommendation, he said the name "will lend itself to ongoing catechesis as we expound to current parish members and educate future members about who we are as a community of believers in Christ. The name Corpus Christi will continue to proclaim to the wider community our great love of Christ, his sacrifice and his call for us to become his hands, feet and mouth here on earth."

Father Dan Kirby, pastor of the three parishes that will merge, invited people in March to send him their suggestions for a name for the new parish.

Queen of Apostles, Holy Family and Our Lady of Carter Lake have been working closely since June, 2002. Each parish maintained its autonomy while collaborating on joint ministries

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New Parish...add 1

and activities with success. Recently, the tri-parish Visioning Council approached Bishop Pates for direction. Discussion began last June, and Bishop Pates affirmed moving in the direction of forming one new parish with three worship sites.

With the three faith communities coming together to form one parish, the pastor will have one Finance Council and one Pastoral Council and a consolidation of administrative duties for him and his staff.

Effective July 1, the diocese will have 81 parishes in 23 counties in central and southwest Iowa.

Bishop's announcement on his radio show was broadcast on Spirit Catholic Radio, 102.7 FM out of Omaha and KWKY 1150 AM out of Des Moines. The show will be rebroadcast tomorrow, Saturday, May 7, at noon on KWKY 1150 AM.

The Diocese of Des Moines includes 83 parishes in 23 counties in central and southwest Iowa.