



# Corpus Christi Parish

BOX 486 | 48 BELCHER ST | KENTVILLE, NS B4N 3X3

## Report on Parish Identity

### 1. What has your new parish done over the past 12-18 months to promote a singular identity?

- Developed a logo and published the story of the logo in the bulletin.
- Created a landing page type website right away with a new fully built out website put into development (set to launch on Corpus Christi Sunday).
- Consolidated the individual bulletins into one parish bulletin.
- Appointed community liaisons (1 for each church community) responsible for helping to keep information flowing.
- Switched out our various emails at individual churches to emails under the corpuschristins.ca domain.
- Created an email address naming convention.
- Established Parish Leadership Team, Community Life Teams, Parish Pastoral Council, and Parish Finance and Administration Council.
- Updated and consolidated nine individual parish email lists into one mailing list.
- Created a Facebook page for the parish with social Facebook groups attached.
- Discerned a vision and mission statement.
- Held a Vision Sunday event when the vision was launched in all our churches.
- Held a Lenten Parish Mission.
- Established the “Corpus Christi Festival”, now in its second year.
- During the 1<sup>st</sup> festival (2020) – representatives from across the parish collaborated in an online version of the song “One Heart, One Mind”. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> festival (2021), Michelle Mackey composed a beautiful song “We Are the Body of Christ” (inspired by our parish name, our parish vision statement and John 6) – representatives from across the parish, once again, collaborated in the making of an online version.

### 2. What plans do you have over the next 12 months to continue to strengthen the identity of the new parish?

We will hold our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Corpus Christi Festival in 2022 and this time we really hope it will not be entirely virtual (but some of it will be – to make sure we continue to reach everyone).

The PPC has started work on a Pastoral Plan for the Parish. The first step was a half-day session exploring the purpose of the pastoral plan, reviewing some of the information that came from the transition period, looking at what our new parish needs, in a very broad way. The next step is a survey of parishioners to learn more about our demographics, needs, hopes and current status of ministries, that were in place at the time of transition, to see how the parish can support and evolve these ministries as needed.



Included in our pastoral planning will be the 4 Pastoral Priorities of the Archbishop.

The Director of Family Life and Youth is hoping to build out the Family Life and Youth Ministry to all the churches in the parish using a hybrid model of virtual interactions and in-person gatherings (post covid, of course). This hybrid model will deliver a common faith formation program so that all the young disciples in our parish can connect to each other through this Ministry, as well as, stay connected to their local communities.

We are gradually phasing out old social media accounts that belong to specific churches and are bringing those parishioners to the Corpus Christi accounts, including social groups that have been created on Facebook for our various communities and we also plan to add ministry groups.

### **3. What are the one or two most difficult issue facing your parish, in regards to forming a singular identity?**

One parish made up of 9 different communities with people of different backgrounds.

Distance – over 200 km from the 2 churches on the far ends of our parish. Difficult to bring people together (in-person) for a “parish” event.

Most of our parishioners are older – making it a challenge to evangelize our communities and to keep younger ones engaged.

### **4. Please highlight one or two moments of grace in forming your new identity**

The Corpus Christi Festival (9 days leading up to and including the Feast of Corpus Christi). The 1<sup>st</sup> (in 2020) was launched on a wing and a prayer as COVID-19 prevented us from gathering in-person. The 2<sup>nd</sup> festival, which we just completed, brought many little moments of joy and encounters with one another. It reminded us that we are the Body of Christ.

The creation of the Vision Statement was powerful, as was most of the feedback that came from it.

The collaborative effort on the production of two on-line songs (1<sup>st</sup> in 2020 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2021), spear-headed by Michelle Mackey, were also moments of grace.