

## **EMBRACING A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE**

### **A Pastoral Plan for the Diocese of London**

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For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

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#### **Preamble**

Called by Jesus through baptism into his passion, death and resurrection and anointed by the Spirit, we, the people of God in the Diocese of London, are to be living signs of Christ's presence in the world today. United in Christ, the Bread of Life, we commit ourselves to carrying out the mission of proclaiming the coming of the kingdom of God in our time. We embrace the Gospel – believing what we read, preaching what we believe, and practicing what we preach.

As a people of faith, trusting in the Spirit who leads us, we dedicate ourselves to the following goals:

#### **Goal I**

As living signs of Christ's presence, we will respond to the call to personal holiness given to all by committing ourselves to opportunities for ongoing conversion and spiritual renewal.

#### **Goal II**

Called by Christ, we will evangelize through the clear proclamation of the Gospel and the constant teaching of the Catholic faith, assuring that such proclamation and teaching is linked to the life experience of the people.

#### **Goal III**

With our sights set on the mission of Jesus, we will minister with justice and compassion to the wounded, the searching, the entrapped and those in material and spiritual need.

#### **Goal IV**

As the Body of Christ, formed by word and sacrament, we will make provision for meaningful liturgical celebrations in our parish communities to ensure full, conscious and active participation by all.

## **Goal V**

Inviting all to co-responsible ministry, we will encourage and support the ongoing formation of laity, religious and ordained.

## **Goal VI**

Imitating Christ the servant-leader, we will employ and model governance practices at all levels that seek to: meet the needs of God's people, support the Church's mission, ensure appropriate participation in decision-making by the laity, religious and ordained, uphold Gospel stewardship, and promote accountability and transparency.

Promulgated at St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica  
in London, Ontario on May 30, 2004,  
the Solemnity of Pentecost

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Most Rev. Ronald Fabbro, C.S.B.  
Bishop of London