



## PRESS RELEASE

**Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, ON, January 18, 2012** - The Roman Catholic Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie wishes to announce that they have received a response from the Congregation for the Clergy in Rome concerning the appeal against the closure and sale of the former churches of Corpus Christi and St. Rita in North Bay. The Congregation has not accepted the recourse. The applicants always have the option of appealing the decision of the Congregation for the Clergy to the highest court of the Roman Catholic Church.

Bishop Jean-Louis Plouffe of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie states: *“This has been a painful and confusing time for many in the City of North Bay and throughout the Diocese. It is my sincere hope that with this decision we can begin the process of healing and reconciliation as Catholic brothers and sisters called to grow together in faith and unity.”*

From the very beginning, the diocesan wide process of restructuring and revitalization of our parishes had but one goal: to better meet the pastoral needs of our people, especially the younger generations, now and into the future.

The Bishop asks the faithful to pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct us to work for the greater good of all and to build vibrant parishes able to respond generously to those who seek a place to experience God’s love.