



## PRESS RELEASE

*For immediate release*

### **St. Paul's Parish is still alive and is taking itself in hand**

Aylmer, Gatineau, June 18, 2009 – Sorely shaken and destabilized by the arson that destroyed their church on June 11, the parishioners of St. Paul's were left without a place to worship or gather. However, the community is finding its footing very rapidly.

On Sunday June 21, 2009 (10:00 a.m.), there was an open air, commemorative mass in the parking lot of the burnt church. That mass was centred on hope for the future and gratitude for the past. On June 28, a televised mass was planned to be held in St. Paul's Church; due to the arson, it had to be displaced to the St. Joseph's Cathedral, in Hull.

Subsequently, the religious offices of St. Paul's Parish will take place in different locations.

The wardens of the parish have examined different options offered to them by the community at large, including other parishes and the school sector, and they are grateful to all those who manifested so much solidarity and generosity. After studying the different possibilities, they are now pleased to announce that, starting July 5th, 2009, the Sunday masses will be celebrated in Hall 4 of Cinéma des Galeries Aylmer. However, the masses will now be at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

The St. Paul's Saturday evening mass will take place at St. Médard's Church on Chemin Vanier at 7 p.m.

The sacraments of baptisms, marriages and funerals will be celebrated in St. Mark's Church on rue Principale in Aylmer.

We wish to address our special thanks to all the generous people who offered their halls as an alternative location or who helped us to find some. We believe that we have made the correct choices to fill in our temporary (but probably for quite some time) needs while minimizing the disturbance to the Aylmer community.

We also want to thank all the men and women who expressed their sympathy through E-mail, telephone or telegrams or who have made donations since the disaster. We cannot remain silent in front of so much solidarity, generosity and sympathy.

– 30 –

Information: Richard M. Bégin: 819-684-4275 or 819-665-8993  
Paroisse Saint-Paul: 819-684-5318