



## **January 8, 2005 - Archdiocese of Boston Closes Four Cape Ann Parishes, Creates New 'Holy Family Parish' in Gloucester and Rockport**

**(Boston, Massachusetts) January 8, 2005**...The Archdiocese of Boston announced that St. Peter's Parish, St. Ann's Parish and Sacred Heart Parish in Gloucester, as well as St. Joachim Parish in Rockport were closed peacefully today and a new parish, Holy Family Parish was established. Holy Family will be based out of the former St. Ann's church on Prospect Street in Gloucester and will continue to use facilities at the former St. Joachim church, as well as St. Anthony by the Sea chapel in East Gloucester, which will remain as a place of worship during the summer months.

"While many are saddened by these closings, the former parishioners celebrated closing liturgies in a dignified and reverent way," commented Revs. Ronald Gariboldi and Timothy Harrison, co-pastors of the new Holy Family Parish. "We are grateful to the many members of these parishes who have worked hard to help us create a new parish which will serve the needs of the Cape Ann Catholic community. We look forward to welcoming friends and neighbors to our new parish community as we celebrate the opening of Holy Family Parish today at a 4:00 PM Mass with Bishop Francis X. Irwin, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese for the North Region."

Archbishop Sean O'Malley expresses his understanding of the sadness many are feeling as their parishes close and shares his heartfelt gratitude for the parishioners' help in effecting a calm and peaceful transition to a new parish. The Archbishop also shared that he is praying for the Catholic community on Cape Ann as it prepares to move forward at Holy Family Parish.

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