



## Greetings to All the Sisters and Brothers our beloved Communion!

It is with great joy and thanksgiving that I announce to you the reception of two new faith communities into the Ecumenical Catholic Communion (ECC). We have recently completed the process of receiving the two communities of the Ecumenical Anglican Church (EAC) into our Communion. Bishop Richard Hollingsworth, of Saint Jerome Parish in Tulsa, Oklahoma will be the first bishop to join the ECC since its inception.

We are grateful to Bishop Rick for his humble generosity in this move by his ecclesial jurisdiction to join the ECC. Bishop Rick has voluntarily stepped away from any jurisdictional authority, except as the duly elected pastor of the Saint Jerome Parish, as a part of the acceptance of the communities of the EAC into the ECC. He will have no juridical authority within the polity of the ECC.

In the future, however, if the people of the region form a diocese, Bishop Rick would be eligible for election as the bishop ordinary of that diocese, and then, of course, he would hold jurisdictional authority by that election in accordance with our constitution.

In the meantime, I have appointed Bishop Rick to be my SUFFRAGAN FOR ANGLICAN AFFAIRS, and thus serve the Communion as an advocate for faith communities of the Anglican Tradition which seek to join or have joined the ECC. As a Suffragan, he will personally represent me and the Office of the Presiding Bishop. Bishop Rick will also serve as a non-voting member of the Episcopal Council. Only bishop ordinaries can be voting members as result of having been duly elected by the people of a diocese.

The other EAC parish to join the Communion is in Reading, Pennsylvania. The name of this community is All Souls and the pastor is Father Dewayne Messenger.

Please join me in extending a warm welcome and "the right hand of fellowship" to these new members of our beloved Communion!

Blessings of joy and peace to our sisters and brothers of Saint Jerome Parish, All Souls Church, and to all our sister faith communities of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion.

This Comes with Love and Gratitude,

+Bishop Peter