



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PARMA

CHANCERY

August 17, 2020

STATUS OF PRIEST OF THE EPARCHY OF PARMA

The Reverend Basil J. Hutsko, formerly the pastor of St. Michael Parish in Merrillville, Indiana, was placed on administrative leave by the Eparchy of Parma in October of 2018 based on an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor dating back to the 1980's.

After appropriate due process according to canon (Church) law and under the direction of the Most Reverend Milan Lach, S.J. Bishop of Parma, Father Basil Hutsko is to live "a life of prayer and penance" (Cf. 2006 USCCB, *Essential Norms*, n. 8B).

A cleric who has been ordered to live a life of prayer and penance has been permanently removed from engaging in public ministry and does not live on premises belonging to the Eparchy. He is not permitted to celebrate Divine Liturgy/Mass publicly or to administer the sacraments. He is forbidden to wear a clerical garb and present himself as a priest. He is bound in conscience to pray and offer acts of penance for those in need of healing due to the harmful actions of clergy.

The Eparchy of Parma remains committed to the protection of youth according to the Safe Environment norms given by the USCCB.