



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PARMA

CHANCERY

Eparchial Announcement Concerning Rev. Ján Čižmár

Father Ján Čižmár, a priest of the Eparchy of Košice, Slovakia, has announced his decision to separate himself from the Catholic Church. The faithful and clergy of the Eparchy of Parma are advised that as of 7 May 2021, Father Čižmár no longer possesses the faculties for ministry previously granted to him in 2016 and continued by Bishop Milan Lach, the Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma. By law, Father Čižmár has been removed from all offices he has held within the Eparchy of Parma (canon 976.2 *CCEO*). He is therefore not capable of validly granting absolution in the sacrament of Holy Confession except in danger of death. He is prohibited from concelebrating the Divine Liturgy in Catholic churches. The faithful and clergy are not to approach Father Čižmár for spiritual counseling or direction. In charity and in concern for the spiritual well-being of Father Čižmár and his family, Bishop Milan Lach encourages the people of God of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma to pray that Father Čižmár may be moved by the Holy Spirit to seek reconciliation with the Catholic Church.