



## Diocese of Austin

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### **Fire at historic Westphalia Church**

AUSTIN -- The Diocese of Austin was informed this morning of a fire at the Church of the Visitation in Westphalia.

Full details of the fire are unknown at this time, but it appears the church will be a total loss.

“I am saddened for the people of Westphalia who have suffered this tremendous loss,” said Bishop Joe S. Vásquez. “I am grateful for all the firefighters and departments that responded to the fire. Please join me in keeping the people of this historic parish in your prayers today as they try to piece together this tragedy.”

Bishop Vásquez will visit the parish this morning.

The parish was founded in 1883 and currently serves 244 families. The church is led by Rev. Edwin Kagoo.

All media inquiries should be directed to Christian Gonzalez, director of communications, at (512) 788-1548.

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The Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin includes 127 parishes, or faith communities, in 25 counties in Central Texas. The diocese stretches over 21,000 square miles.