

256/2012  
23 June 2012

The Reverend Gary D. Chmura  
Our Lady of Peace Parish  
12503 Buckingham Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44120-1498

Dear Father Chmura:

After proper consultation, I hereby appoint you Pastor of St. Adalbert Parish, Cleveland. This appointment will become effective 2 July 2012. In accord with the Diocese of Cleveland Clergy Personnel Handbook Book I: Priests §307.1 Term of Office for Pastors, promulgated 1 June 2009 this appointment will be for a six-year term of office, which may be renewed more than once. This appointment is in addition to your duties as Pastor of Our Lady of Peace Parish, Cleveland.

As you undertake this pastoral appointment, I recall the Second Vatican Council's description of your role as representative of your bishop:

Pastors cooperate with the bishop in a very special way, for as shepherds in their own right they are entrusted with the care of souls in a certain part of the diocese, under the bishop's authority. (Decree on Bishop's Pastoral Office, #30)

I pledge myself to this very special cooperation with you, as I am sure you do with me. Together we represent the Church to all the people of St. Adalbert Parish. Let us work together to make that representation as authentic as possible. I know that I can count on your cooperation.

“The parish priest is the proper pastor of the parish entrusted to him. He exercises the pastoral care of the community entrusted to him under the authority of the diocesan Bishop whose ministry of Christ he is called to share, so that for this community he may carry out the offices of teaching, sanctifying, and governing with the cooperation of other priests or deacons and with the assistance of lay members of Christ’s faithful, in accordance with the law.” (Canon 519) With this assignment as pastor it is understood that you have responsibility for celebrating Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation for the people of St. Adalbert Parish (Pro Populo Missa) (Canon 534), the management of the parish, including the sacramental, statistical, financial and accounting duties ordinarily incumbent upon the pastor. Such authority entitles you to administer the parish accounts, including the deposit and withdrawal of funds and the signing of checks.

The Reverend Gary D. Chmura  
23 June 2012  
Page Two

As you begin this new assignment I ask that you recall the responses you declared at your ordination. Your responses indicated your desire to serve the Lord in obedience to your bishop and minister to his people wherever the church missioned you. I urge you to take every opportunity to recommit yourself to this desire as you continue to administer the sacraments, bring comfort to the dying, preach the Gospel and proclaim the kingdom of God to those entrusted to your care. I also ask that you continue to work in collaboration with the larger diocesan community making every possible effort so that you and the members of your parish staff attend District and Presbyteral gatherings.

I have every confidence, Fr. Chmura that you will bring to this pastorate the level of ministerial competence, which you have demonstrated since your priestly ordination. I believe, as you anticipate this new office that your priestly ministry to the good people of St. Adalbert Parish will enrich their parish life. I assure you of my continued support and prayers.

May God bless you and your ministry with every grace.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Linn".

Bishop of Cleveland

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donald P. Oleksak".  
Notary