



THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

June 22, 2021

Dear Monsignor/Father:

Please accept my thanks for all the pastoral care and priestly ministry you provide for the people of our diocese. Day after day, week after week, you live as dedicated shepherds of the Lord's flock. Please know of my gratitude to you and of my gratitude to the Lord for you.

This past weekend there were announcements of many new assignments in our diocese. A list of those assignments is attached to this letter. Please note there are a couple of parishes where we are still working on the assignment of a priest; an updated list will be provided once those assignments are finalized.

Please join me in thanking Father Tom Barrett and Father Tad Gegotek for their years of ministry; we wish them good health and pray the Lord bless them as they begin retirement. I also want to thank Msgr. Jack McEvelly, who postponed his retirement while graciously assisting at St. Bernard and St. Damian. May God hold you all in the palm of his hand.

My thanks to the priests who accepted a request to change assignments. My sincere prayer for you is that you will experience the renewal of the Lord's call as you "set out into deep waters" and "lower your nets" for a catch (Luke 5) in a new parish setting.

I also offer my thanks to the members of the Priests Personnel Board for their work on the assignment process. I am most appreciative of their care and concern for our brother priests as well as the needs of the People of God in southern Illinois.

Finally, let us continue to work on the promotion of vocations to the priesthood. We have another St. Andrew dinner in Carlyle on July 18. Please extend an invitation to a young man you think could benefit from learning more about the priesthood today.

May the Lord Jesus bless you all with his presence and peace this summer.

In our Lord,
Most Reverend Michael McGovern
Bishop of Belleville

Enclosure: Appointments Announcement

Office of the Bishop
222 South Third - Belleville, Illinois 62220 - 1985
Phone: (618) 277-8181 Ext. 1081 - Fax: (618) 277-0387
E-mail: bmgovern@diobelle.org



Diocese of Belleville
Office of the Bishop

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

Most Reverend Michael McGovern is pleased to make the following appointments effective on Tuesday, July 20, 2021.

Pastor Retirement (canon 538§3)

Reverend Thomas Barrett, until now, Pastor of St. Paul Parish in Vienna, is hereby granted retirement.

Reverend Tadeusz Gegotek, until now, Pastor of St. Barbara Parish in Okawville and St. Anthony Parish in Lively Grove, is hereby granted retirement.

Pastor (canon 522)

Very Reverend Steven L. Beatty, V.F., until now, Pastor of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish in Ridgway, St. Mary Parish in Eldorado, St. Joseph Parish in Elizabethtown, and St. Mary Parish in Harrisburg, is appointed Pastor of St. Bernard Parish in Albers and St. Damian Parish in Damiansville.

Reverend Monsignor David M. Darin, until now, Pastor of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus Parish and St. Luke Parish in Belleville, is appointed Pastor of St. George Parish in New Baden.

Reverend John Kizhakedan, is appointed Pastor of St. Mary Parish in Valmeyer, while continuing as Pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Tipton and Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in Renault.

Reverend Joseph O. Oganda, until now, Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in DuQuoin and Immaculate Conception Parish in Tamaroa, is appointed Pastor of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus Parish and St. Luke Parish in Belleville.

Parochial Administrator (canon 539)

Reverend Christopher Anyanwu, until now, Administrator of St. Mary Parish in Belleville, is appointed Administrator of St. Barbara Parish in Okawville and St. Anthony Parish in Lively Grove.

Reverend Felix Chukwuma, until now, Administrator of St. Mary Parish in Valmeyer and Chaplain at Gibault Catholic High School, is appointed to team ministry *in solidum* with the Very Reverend Mark D. Stec, V.F., Pastor, at St. Joseph Parish in Olney, St. Joseph Parish in Stringtown, Holy Cross Parish in Wendelin, and St. Lawrence Parish in Lawrenceville, with residence at St. Lawrence Rectory.

Reverend Christian Iwuagwu, until now, Parochial Vicar at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish in Ridgway, St. Mary Parish in Eldorado, St. Joseph Parish in Elizabethtown, and St. Mary Parish in Harrisburg, is appointed Administrator of St. Paul Parish in Vienna, St. Mary Parish in Eldorado and St. Mary Parish in Harrisburg.

Reverend Vincent Mukasa, until now, Administrator of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Sparta and St. Pius V Parish in Walsh, is appointed Administrator of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish in Ridgway and St. Joseph Parish in Elizabethtown.

Reverend Carl E. Schrage, until now, Parochial Vicar at the Cathedral of St. Peter, is appointed Administrator of Sacred Heart Parish in DuQuoin and Immaculate Conception Parish in Tamaroa.

Given from the Diocesan Curia on Saturday, the 6th day of June, The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, in the Year of Our Lord 2021.