

## DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

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February 3, 2020

**Dear communities of Christ the King Parish/School, St. Joseph Basilica Parish/School, and Saint Joseph Notre Dame High School:**

Over the past several weeks, information has been circulating regarding Father George Alengadan which has led to much distress on the part of all concerned. We wish to use this opportunity to set the record straight.

Father Alengadan was never accused of any sexual misconduct involving children. Bishop Michael Barber's announcement to the St. Joseph Basilica Parish parishioners, which is attached, explains this fact.

Rather, Father Alengadan was alleged to have engaged in inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature with current and former female employees, most of whom worked at the school and/or parish. Father George denied these allegations; however, he was promptly placed on administrative leave as pastor of St. Joseph Basilica Parish.

A trained, independent investigator conducted a comprehensive investigation over several months. The investigator made a factual determination the conduct alleged by these women was substantiated; however, the investigator made no determination whether this conduct constituted sexual harassment or a violation of any law.

Because the allegations and investigation involved a serious and sensitive personnel matter, and it is important to protect the privacy of all involved, we will not publicly release the investigator's report.

The first complainant filed a police report. She did this shortly before reporting her allegations to the Diocese. The Diocese did not contact the police to file a report. However, the Diocese will cooperate in any investigation undertaken by a law enforcement agency.

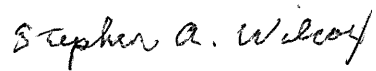
Both Father Alengadan and the women who brought forward these allegations were advised of the results of the investigation. In December, Bishop Barber and Father Alengadan agreed he would resign as pastor at St. Joseph Basilica Parish for the good of the parish and school communities. This resignation eliminated any future supervision issues involving the women who still work there so there would not be an allegation of retaliation. Announcements concerning his resignation as pastor were read at the Dec 21-22 Masses as well as to school and parish employees.

At Bishop Barber's request, Father Alengadan has been fully cooperative in pursuing various supplemental training and counseling. During this time, unless out of the country visiting his

family in India, Father Alengadan has lived at Christ the King. He remains a Catholic priest with faculties, which includes the responsibility to celebrate Mass. However, Father Alengadan has not had any supervisory duties concerning any school or parish employees at Christ the King.

We ask you to hold everyone involved in your prayers. May this time in our parishes and school communities bring about renewed trust, healing, and reconciliation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen A. Wilcox". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Stephen A. Wilcox, Chancellor