



Office of the Bishop  
Diocese of Toledo +

16 March 2019

Dear Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Leaders, Consecrated Religious, and Lay Faithful of the Diocese of Toledo,

Since its earliest days, our Diocese has been blessed by the witness, prayer, and service of countless religious, both men and women, representing a variety of communities and charisms.

One of those religious communities of men has been the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (“the Redemptorists”), who have served in the diocese for over 100 years, principally at Saint Gerard Parish in Lima.

It is with heartfelt joy that I announce that the Redemptorists will be expanding their presence in the Diocese of Toledo by moving their North American novitiate to the campus of Saint Gerard in Lima. This transfer will take place this coming summer and will bring two additional Redemptorist priests to Saint Gerard’s, for a total of five priests, three of whom will be dedicated to parish ministry and two of whom will be dedicated to formation of novices.

Further, at my invitation, the Redemptorists have agreed to provide a full-time pastor for Saint Mary Parish in Bluffton, who will reside at St. Gerard, as well as to undertake campus ministry for the Catholic students at Bluffton University. This change will be effective August 1, 2019. Sister Carol Inkrott, OSF, will conclude her service as Pastoral Leader of Saint Mary Parish at that time. I am so grateful to Sister Carol who has served with great dedication in this role since 2002, and I sincerely thank her for these many years of faithful and generous commitment. I also wish to acknowledge and thank Father John Stites, who has so generously served as Presbyteral Moderator and Chaplain for Saint Mary Parish for the past three years.

The new pastor for Saint Mary Parish will be announced sometime in June. Saint Mary Parish, although entrusted to the pastoral care of the Redemptorists, remains a diocesan parish.

Please join me in thanking the Lord for the generosity of the Redemptorists of the Baltimore Province and their increased presence and ministry in our diocese. Please continue to pray with me that more consecrated men and women will come to serve in our Diocese. Lenten Blessings!

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

+ *Daniel E. Thomas*

Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas  
Bishop of Toledo