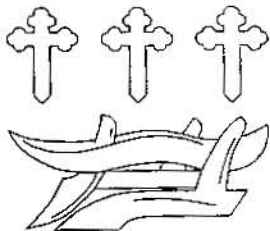


April, 2011



**Office of  
The Archbishop**

100 East Eighth Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

513-421-3131

Dear Parishioners of Assumption and St. Margaret Mary Parishes:

Grace and peace be with you! I write with sincere care for you and with important news about your parish community and region which consists of Assumption and St. Margaret Mary Parishes.

Today, I am announcing the implementation of your Deanery Pastoral Region Plan effective July 6, 2011. The Pastoral Region of Assumption and St. Margaret Mary is a collaborative group of parishes with one pastor assigned by the Archbishop who leads parish staff and leaders.

Father Jerry Gardner will initially serve as the Parochial Administrator of Assumption Parish in Mt. Healthy in July. I trust the people of Assumption will welcome him. He will continue as pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish. I truly wish I could provide an individual pastor for all the parishes in the Archdiocese but I cannot. We are at a time when we have to make difficult decisions.

Assumption and St. Margaret Mary will remain canonical parishes but pastored by one priest. I am grateful to the Parish Councils and Pastoral Staff from both parishes who are working with each other as you make this transition. More specific information will come from them.

Father Bill Kennedy has served well as pastor of Assumption Parish. He is retiring after 40 years of faithful service to the people of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. He will continue to serve our Church in many ways during his retirement. I also thank Father Gardner for his willingness to assume the additional responsibilities that come with the pastoral care of two parish communities.

As your Archbishop, I am very committed to increasing priestly vocations. I have asked each parish community to pray for vocations to the priesthood, as well as religious life. You will be in my prayers and I ask that you please pray for all involved in this transition. May Almighty God provide us with the fortitude we need at this moment of change.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis M. Schnurr". The signature is written in a cursive style and includes a small cross symbol at the beginning.

Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr  
Archbishop of Cincinnati