



DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

May 8, 2014

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord:

After a meeting with Father John J. Stronkowski this past Friday, I wish to inform you that I have sought and accepted his resignation as the administrator of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish to take effect immediately. I do this in light of serious difficulties that have come to my attention recently regarding Father Stronkowski's tenure as administrator, including his persistent absenteeism from both the rectory and the parish and its ministries, his growing difficulties with both the staff and lay leaders of the parish and other personal and administrative shortcomings.

As a result, his appointment and planned installation as pastor will not go forward as previously planned. Father Stronkowski will take a leave-of-absence effective immediately, to spend time in prayer and to reflect upon his future in ministry.

Since last weekend, I have given both the parish staff and the lay leadership of the parish an opportunity to meet with Diocesan officials on this matter. Further, I have referred this issue to the Ministerial Misconduct Advisory Board for review and recommendation. The board assists me in reviewing cases of clerical misconduct, either involving adults or that occurs in the exercise of his ministry, and where I must consider action regarding that cleric's assignment, including temporary or permanent removal or suspension.

In the interim, I have appointed Father Frederick Saviano as the temporary administrator of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish to take effect immediately. Father Saviano has generously served you for many years and I am grateful for the priestly service that he will provide you in the coming weeks. His appointment as administrator will remain in effect through June 15th, 2014, by which time I will be ready to appoint a pastor for Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish.

During this time of transition, I ask for your patience and understanding. Please know that you and your families will be remembered in a special way in my daily prayers, especially during the celebration of the Eucharist.

With every best wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**Frank J. Caggiano*

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport