



DIOCESE OF ST. CATHARINES

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THE CHANCERY

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TO: All Parishes and Religious Communities in the Diocese of St. Catharines
FROM: Bishop Gerard Bergie
DATE: May 23, 2025

Dear Clergy, Religious and faithful of the Diocese:

All pastoral appointments noted below take effect **August 6, 2025**, at twelve o'clock noon, unless otherwise noted.

Appointment of Pastors

Father Michael Basque – St. Thérèse of Liseux, Port Colborne

Father Daniele Bertoldi, CFIC – St. Mary Parish, Welland

Father Jacek Kryń, SAC – St. Elizabeth Parish, Wainfleet, in addition to St. Ann Parish, Fenwick (effective January 1, 2026))

Father Roman Majek, OMI – Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Welland (effective September 1, 2025)

Appointment of Parochial Vicars

Father Lukas Kopaniak, SAC – St. Thomas More Parish, Niagara Falls

Sabbatical

Father Stanislaw Ksciuk will be on a six-month sabbatical (effective January 1, 2026)

Retirement

Father Raymond Fenech Gonzi

Since his arrival in 1994, Father Raymond has served in various parishes throughout the diocese before his current assignment at St. Mary Parish in Welland which has lasted 11 years. I thank him for his faithfulness and wish him many blessings in his retirement.

New Clergy to the Diocese

Father Lukas Kopaniak, SAC (previous serving in the Diocese of Hamilton)

Father Roman Majek, OMI (previously serving in the Diocese of Pembroke)

Transfers out of the Diocese

Father Mirosław Olszewski, OMI- (effective August 31, 2025)

I am most grateful to Father Mirosław for his dedicated service to the Diocese of St. Catharines as Pastor of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish in Welland since September 2014. I wish him many blessings as he begins his new assignment in the Diocese of Pembroke.

For your information

Father Philip Smith, CPPS has been assisting with Mass at St. Thomas More Parish in Niagara Falls for the past year. Starting in the summer, he will be assisting Father Ladislav Miskei at Our Lady of Hungary Parish in Welland.

I sincerely thank all those who agreed to these transfers and assure them of my prayerful best wishes.