



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SAGINAW

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January 10, 2015

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last June, Father Nick Coffaro wrote to you, the parishioners of Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish and St. Michael Parish, informing you that he was in need of time for rest and prayer. At his request, I granted Father Coffaro a leave of absence.

During these past six months, Father Coffaro has made significant progress health-wise, physically, emotionally and spiritually. He has expressed to me his deep gratitude for your prayerful support and assured me of his prayers for you.

I met with Father Coffaro recently and, during our discussion, he requested additional time to further address his personal needs. Consequently, I have approved an additional six month leave of absence for Father Coffaro. In view of this request, Father Coffaro has submitted his letter of resignation as Pastor of these two parishes. Father Christopher Coman will remain as Parochial Administrator of your parishes until July 1st, at which time a new Pastor or Administrator will be appointed.

I have great respect for Father Coffaro and commend him for the honesty and maturity he has demonstrated during this time of recuperation and growth. He and I look forward to the time when he will be able to assume another priestly assignment within the Diocese of Saginaw. In the meantime, I ask your continued prayers for Father Coffaro and for all the priests of our Diocese who serve so well among us.

May this Christmas Season and the coming New Year be for each of you a time of grace and deeper faith.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Joseph R. Cistone
Bishop of Saginaw