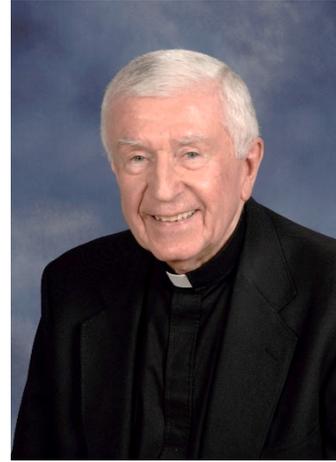


ANNOUNCEMENT FROM FATHER SACKS
Palm Sunday - March 28, 2021



On June 15th of this year, I will be retired as the pastor of “Our Lady”. It is true, I did not ask to be retired. But I understand and I agree with the decision of the personnel board and our Bishop. It is time for me to step aside.

According to canon law, Pastors must resign from the parish they serve when they reach their 75th. Birthday. I did that 8 years ago and again, every year after that. I was granted 8 one-year extensions by three different bishops, including our present bishop, Bishop Schlert.

I am grateful to God for good health, which I still have, and to the bishops who granted those extensions.

I want to be clear. I am being retired from the Office of Pastor. I am not being retired from the priesthood.

When I came here in 1988, some of you will recall I said I came here to serve, not to be served. God willing, I will try to do that as a priest wherever I go for as long as I live.

There will be no farewell gathering because of the COVID-19 pandemic. I do ask for your prayers and want you to know that I will pray for you every day.

My memories of these past 33 years are priceless. I want to thank you for your support of the parish and your kindness to me.

The incoming pastor has not yet been officially announced. I can tell you one important thing about him. He will be younger than me. I will share more information with you as we get closer to June 15th. This is not the time to say Goodbye. There will be a time for that – but not today.

May God continue to bless you for all you do for Him and for all you do for the people entrusted to your care.