



## DIocese OF SUPERIOR

### OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

July 14, 2020

Dear Fr. Ronald Serrao, Fr. Richard Rhinehart and the faithful of the parishes of St. Peter the Fisherman, Eagle River, St. Theresa, Three Lakes, St. Kunegunda, Sugar Camp, St. Mary, Phelps, and St. Albert, Land O' Lakes, I am hoping this letter finds you all safe, healthy and enjoying the warmth of the summer months.

In 2016, Fr. Patrick McConnell, was the Parochial Administrator of St. Peter the Fisherman Parish, Eagle River and served as a priest (Sacramental Minister) for the parishes of St. Mary, Phelps and St. Albert, Land O' Lakes, with Michele Rein serving as Parish Director. In the same year a few months later, the Parochial Administrator, Fr Madanu Bala Showry, assigned to the parishes of St. Theresa, Three Lakes, and St. Kunegunda, Sugar Camp, was needed in another parish setting. Fr. Bala Reddy Allam replaced him as a Sacramental Minister. Because St. Peter the Fisherman Parish, Eagle River, was close by, Fr. Patrick McConnell was assigned as the Parochial Administrator. On June 17, 2019, Fr. Ron Serrao replaced Fr. Patrick and was assigned Pastor of the three (3) parishes of St. Peter the Fisherman, Eagle River, St. Theresa, Three Lakes, and St. Kunegunda, Sugar Camp.

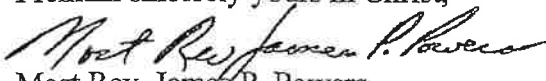
Now with the departure of the Parish Director, Michele Rein, Fr. Ronald has also been named Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Phelps and St. Albert Parish, Land O' Lakes. This forms the new five (5) parish cluster of St. Peter the Fisherman, Eagle River, St. Theresa, Three Lakes, St. Kunegunda, Sugar Camp, St. Mary, Phelps, and St. Albert, Land O' Lakes under the spiritual and administrative care of Fr. Ronald. Fr. Ronald will be assisted with these responsibilities by Fr. Richard Rhinehart, new Parochial Vicar of the cluster, effective July 1, 2020.

It is my hope and prayer, that working closely and collaboratively, all five (5) parishes may not only maintain but grow and enhance the vibrancy of parish life and spiritual wellbeing of all. As the new life of this cluster unfolds, each parish will remain responsible for their own particular expenses, such as the care and upkeep of the buildings and programs specific to an individual parish. There will also be common expenses shared between the parishes such as, but not limited to, the priests' wages, housing and mileage. As the realignment of duties takes place, this may include the sharing of administration expenses and other cluster personnel.

This will all take time and I know that Fr. Ronald, Fr. Richard, with assistance from the Dean of the East Deanery, Fr. Christopher Kemp, and of course with assistance from the faithful, the transition should be as smooth as possible.

With the official clustering of these parishes, we are opening a new phase in the history of the Catholic Church in the Northeast part of the diocese. Be assured of my personal support and that of other diocesan staff during this time of transition. I know that with prayer, good will, sacrifice, and support of one another, the saving work of Christ will not only continue but will flourish.

I remain sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Rev. James P. Powers

Bishop, Diocese of Superior