



*Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Saint Cloud*

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December 5, 2024

Dear Mary, Mother of the Church parishioners:

I am writing to inform you that Father Aaron Kuhn will complete his residential treatment program on December 18. In my most recent conversations with him, he has expressed gratitude for the good care he has received during his leave. I am happy to report that he and his care team have created a wellness plan to provide him with ongoing support into the future.

Father Aaron will return to the Mary, Mother of the Church ACC for the next few weeks to celebrate Masses and reconnect with parishioners. However, in order to better focus on his continued health, and trusting in the good care provided by Father Arlie Sowada as parochial administrator, Father Aaron has resigned as pastor of your ACC. Beginning in January, he will start a new position assisting with the work of the diocese's Tribunal and Office of Canonical Affairs in St. Cloud.

I am very thankful — as I know you are as well — for the excellent ministry and solid leadership that Father Aaron has provided to your ACC. I am confident that you are in very good hands with Fr. Arlie. All matters regarding parish/ACC ministry and administration should now be directed solely to Fr. Arlie. I am working with our diocesan Priests' Personnel Board to find a new pastor for you as soon as possible. I will keep you updated on this process.

I want to acknowledge again the difficult time and uncertainties that you have experienced for the last several months. Thank you for your patience and faithfulness. I appreciate the good care that you have received from your ACC staff, Father Tim Baltes, and now Father Arlie. I continue to pray for you, and I ask you to continue to pray for all those who have been impacted by this situation.

May you have a blessed Advent season.

Yours in Christ,

+ Patrick M. Neary, C.S.C.

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