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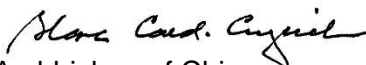
Dear People of the Ss. Genevieve and Stanislaus Bishop & Martyr Parish Community,

Today, I must share difficult news about the former associate pastor of St. Genevieve Parish, Father Orlando Flores Orea. I have asked Father Flores Orea to step aside from ministry pending investigation of his inappropriate relationship with an adult woman. She came forward after Father Flores Orea decided to take a sabbatical. We have extended the services of our Victim Assistance Ministry to her. Father Flores Orea has acknowledged this behavior and will enter a period of prayer, spiritual healing and discernment. He is cooperating with this direction.

Surely this message is upsetting to hear, especially as you continue to build a new parish community. God calls us to ensure those serving our parishioners are fit for ministry and we sometimes have to make difficult decisions to fulfill that responsibility. Parishioners will always be respected if they come forward with information that needs our attention in this regard.

Please know you will be in my prayers as you go forward to create a vibrant parish during this time of renewal.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Archbishop of Chicago