



Office of the Archbishop
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September 4, 2021

Dear members of the St. Agnes, St. Kieran and St. Paul Parish Community,

Today, I must share difficult news about the former pastor of St. Paul's, 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, which took place when he was the associate pastor at St. Genevieve Parish. Father Flores Orea has acknowledged this behavior and will enter a period of prayer, spiritual healing and discernment. He is cooperating with this direction. In all such cases, the Archdiocese offers to provide pastoral care through the Office of Victims Assistance Ministry.

Surely this message is upsetting to hear, especially as you continue to build a new parish community under the leadership of Father Gary Graf, your pastor. 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 and you go forward to create a vibrant parish during this time of renewal.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Archbishop of Chicago