



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP • Diocese of Duluth

2830 East Fourth Street • Duluth, Minnesota 55812-1501 • Tel: (218) 724-9111 • Fax: (218) 724-2221

May 24, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings to you in the name of the Risen Lord, Alleluia!

I am thankful recently to have had the opportunity to celebrate weekend Masses at St. Paul and St. Edward parishes. On those occasions, I updated you as parishioners on how we are moving forward with the organization of your parishes and with Fr. Keith Bertram.

It is in that Spirit of transparency, that I am writing to you to let you know Fr. Keith has requested to take a medical leave of absence. I have agreed to his request as a sign of my support and care for him at this time. Fr. Keith wants to address some emotional health issues at this time, as he has done periodically in the past. He has been very responsible and intentional about meeting with his medical team, counselor and me, to map out how to proceed moving forward. Good health in mind, body, spirit and heart is not only a top priority for Fr. Keith, but also is a priority for me and I know for you as well.

Having been placed on a medical leave of absence, Fr. Keith has resigned as Pastor of St. Paul and as Priest Sacramental Minister to St. Edward, effective immediately. I am working at this time with your parish leadership to address how we will meet the immediate and long-term pastoral needs of St. Edward and St. Paul parishes. You will be cared for, but I would ask for your patience as we review what options are available to us at this time.

In the meantime, I ask you to remember Fr. Keith in your prayers as I know he is praying for you. Also, please know of my prayers for Fr. Keith and for you and your parish communities. It is the promise of the Risen Lord to be with us always. Jesus, I trust in you!

St. Paul and St. Edward, pray for us,

Most Reverend Daniel J. Felton
Bishop of Duluth