

## DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

Office of the Bishop

April 17, 2013

Dear Parishioners of St. Luke Parish,

I wish to share with you officially the news that the court hearing the allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by Fr. Uhrig has completed its work and that the judges concluded the charges were "not proven." As a result of this decision, I have reinstated Fr. Greg as a priest in good standing in the Diocese of Metuchen.

Fr. Greg had communicated to me that it was not his desire to return to St. Luke, and yesterday he submitted to me his resignation as your pastor. I understand and accept his decision and we are discussing how his priestly zeal and talents might best serve the people of the Diocese.

I am grateful to Fr. Greg for his patience and cooperation over the last two and a half years, which I know have been a great trial for him and his family. I am also most appreciative of Fr. Uhrig's many kindnesses to our retired priests during the time he has spent at our Maria Regina Residence.

I thank Father Lancelot for accepting and for discharging so well the very delicate assignment of ministering to you during the period of Fr. Greg's leave of absence, and I am pleased to announce that I have appointed him the fourth pastor of St. Luke Parish.

Finally, I thank you for your own patience and understanding during this very difficult period in your parish's history, for your prayers for Fr. Greg, and for your cooperation with Fr. Lancelot, both in the past and in the days to come.

Let us continue to pray for all those who suffer from violence and neglect, especially the most vulnerable among us.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski

Bishop of Metuchen