



Dear parishioners of St. Mary's:

I have accepted the resignation of Fr. Triggs as pastor of St. Mary's Parish, effective immediately, and have offered him the opportunity for a sabbatical prior to receiving a new assignment. I am grateful to him for his service to God's people in Colts Neck for the past six years. The troubling events of the past week and the unrelenting scrutiny that have surrounded them in the media and within your parish have made it clear to me that a change in parish leadership is in the best interest of all concerned. I will appoint a parish administrator in the next few days.

There are few things in life as important as protecting our children and young people. We all must recommit ourselves to that goal by supporting the policies of the Diocese of Trenton designed to do precisely that. It is my hope and prayer that this community of faith will move forward together, that any anger or hurt will subside and that the Lord will bless our efforts to serve one another in his name.

Respectfully yours in the Lord,

Bishop O'Connell