

Dear Members of the Parish Community:

I have had the privilege and pleasure of serving as pastor of St. Mary's Parish here in Colts Neck for the past six years. During that time, I have come to know and love our parish community and I hope I have served you well. The controversy that has arisen during the past week, discussed at the parish forum on Friday night, has made it clear to me that the good of our parish can only be served if I step down as pastor. I have offered my resignation as pastor to the Bishop and he has accepted it, effective immediately. The Bishop has given me a sabbatical during which time I will have the opportunity for renewal and prayer before accepting another assignment.

In light of the concerns voiced by many, I have also accepted the resignation of our youth ministers Amy and Mike Lenehan, effective immediately. As a result, the youth group meeting scheduled for Monday, May 6 has been postponed until further notice. In closing, I offer my heartfelt thanks, prayers and best wishes to all the parishioners of St. Mary's. May the Lord be with you as the parish moves forward.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Triggs