

Dear Brothers:



It is with regret that the Province announces its withdrawal from Queen of Apostles Parish in San Jose, Calif., as of June 30, 2007. My letter below to **Fr. Jim Mifsud**, pastor, **Bro. Bill Bolts**, pastoral associate, and the parishioners will be read at Masses this weekend by **Bro. Mike O'Grady**. The Province is deeply grateful for the many years of service to the people of San Jose by Marianist religious. The decision to withdraw from Queen of Apostles is the result of a dialogue and discernment of the Province Council since April 2004

concerning the age and availability of our parish ministers throughout the Province. Although there is vitality in each of our parishes, our resources are stretched thin, and the Provincial Council believes that we must take a proactive stance toward parish ministry. The Diocese of San Jose has been consulted in this decision. While the decision is understandable to the diocese, they too regret the departure of Marianist religious from the parish.



27 January 2007

Fr. Jim Mifsud, SM
Bro. William Bolts, SM
and the Congregation of Queen of Apostles Parish
4911 Moorpark Avenue
San Jose California 95129-2199

Dear Jim, Bill, and Parishioners,

We come to you this day with an announcement which we make with deep regret. We announce to all of you today that the Marianists of the Province of the United States will no longer be staffing the parish of Queen of Apostles in San Jose.

In the past three and a half years, we have been in a discernment process regarding our parishes and the personnel which we have available and will have available. We have felt it was necessary to do this so that we did not leave our entire parish ministry up to attrition.

We have asked the Diocese of San Jose to take responsibility for the parish as of June 30, 2007. We are in conversation with them about the future.

We have been very proud of our 40-plus years in parish ministry at Queen of Apostles. We believe the Marianist charism has made a difference in your lives and your faith and generosity have made a difference in our lives.

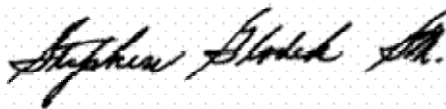
The discernment process has not been easy. Fr. Jim Mifsud and Bro. Bill Bolts affirmed strongly how valuable it has been for us as Marianists to be at Queen of Apostles. As a Council, we are aware of the rich ministry that has taken place at Queen of Apostles. We regret we do not have the personnel to continue ministry in all of the places which have been so fruitful for us.

As we have told the Diocese, Queen of Apostles is a vibrant and vital parish. It has a professional and faith-filled parish staff which will continue the ministry of the parish. We believe we can leave this parish knowing that it is in the good and strong and caring hands of the staff and the congregation. It has been our privilege to serve you. We only leave because of our personnel limitations.

We know that this change causes upset in the life of the parish. We believe that God's grace and your cooperation with that grace will build your community of faith and care. We believe that you, the community of Queen of Apostles, will "Never Give Up!"

May God continue to live in all of you and Queen of Apostles Parish.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen Glodek S.M." The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Bro. Stephen Glodek, S.M.
and the Provincial Council

