



ARCHBISHOP OF DETROIT

31 January 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with a sense of joy that I share with you the news that I have decided, after consulting with Father Mech and staff in the Departments of Finance and Administration and Parish Life and Services, to change the relationship between St. Moses the Black Parish and the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament Parish. Effective July 1, 2019, St. Moses the Black will become a fully separate and independent parish within the Archdiocese of Detroit.

What does this news mean for you and for the parish? Most importantly, I will appoint a priest to serve as administrator. This new administrator will be able to dedicate his time to serving the people of the parish. I am profoundly grateful for Father Mech's service to you these past three-and-a-half years. As I am sure you are well aware, his assignment as rector of the Cathedral places a great many demands on Father Mech's time. These demands have limited his opportunities to serve St. Moses the Black. Your new administrator will be present full-time to serve you in carrying out the work to which we are all called.

The Franciscan friars who have been residing at St. Moses the Black since October 2017 will continue to live on the St. Moses campus. They also will continue to serve the community in carrying out the ministry to the marginalized and less fortunate which has, for so many years, been an integral part of this parish community. I pray that your new administrator, the Franciscan friars and you will not only continue this good work, but, in a spirit of apostolic boldness and with great confidence in God, lead more people to encounter Jesus and come to know of His profound love and mercy.

While St. Moses the Black Parish and the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament Parish will be two independent parishes, it is my prayer that these two communities will continue, as they have since 2013, to serve as exemplars of the spirit of innovation and cooperation to which we are all called. Should you have more questions, please feel free to contact Father Mech at the parish office.

Please be assured of my continued prayers for you. With confidence in Jesus that you, the people of St. Moses the Black, may continue to play an important role in our mission to unleash the Gospel, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron
Archbishop of Detroit

UNLEASH THE GOSPEL