



Bishop's Office

Prot. 175/2020

Montreal, September 30th, 2020

To our Faithful Parishioners of Our Lady of Peace Parish in Calgary,

I greet you with the joy of the Lord Jesus, hoping that, with your families, you are safe.

Pursuant to the Canon laws and based on the bylaws of each Eparchy, and in line with the decisions of the Eparchial Presbyteral Council on August 2, 2017, Reverend Father Michel Kassas was appointed as Pastor of a parish in the region of Ontario 2.

We have extended to Father Kassas to keep serving the parish of Our Lady of Peace an additional period, up to three (3) years to date, to complete the service he had started at one of the health institutions of the Latin Catholic Diocese of Calgary, and to monitor the health status of his mother, Mrs. Amal Kassas, and to complete the church renovation project.

However, since it became an urgent necessity to safeguard the consistency of the eparchial endeavors in managing its parishes, taking into account the situation of Fr. Michel's mother, a separation was made between his pastoral service and her health status.

Accordingly, and after in-depth consultation and concertation with him and concerned persons, we inform you of the following:

- 1- Father Daniel Fares has been appointed as Administrator of the parish, starting October 1, 2020.
- 2- Father Fares arrives to Calgary on October 8th, and shall celebrate Mass on Sunday October 11, 2020, with the participation of Father Kassas, in order for the parish to be formally handed over between both of them.
- 3- Father Kassas stops serving the parish starting Monday October 12th, 2020 to devote himself to the care of his mother, while continuing his service at the Calgary Catholic Diocese health institution until he moves to serve his new parish in Leamington, Ontario.
- 4- Father Kassas continues to reside with his mother and sister at the rectory until his mother recovers from her upcoming surgery and her condition improves. She then moves to Lebanon or with him to his new parish. As for Father Fares, he resides at one of the Latin parishes near the Church of Our Lady of Peace, after Most Reverend Bishop William McGrattan generously agreed to help with this matter.
- 5- During his stay in Calgary, Father Kassas will solely assist Father Fares, when necessary, in spiritual affairs. He will hand over to him all administrative, financial and other matters related to the parish. He will also assist him in the process of getting to know the parishioners.

6- Father Kassas shall remain on the payroll of the Parish in support to him and his mother. It is noteworthy to point out to those who wish to contribute to this initiative to do so by donating to the parish.

All of you and Our Lady of Peace parish, Calgary, are in my thoughts and prayers. May the Lord protect our families, priests and faithful who have committed to serve in the Eparchy for the glory of God and the best of souls.

With my blessing and best wishes,

