

The Community of Saint Peter

7100 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, OH 44103

Pentecost Sunday 2012

Dear Member(s) of The Community of Saint Peter,

On the 22nd of May 2012 I met with Richard Lennon, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, at his request, to discuss my "status as a priest of the Diocese of Cleveland. Mr. Robert Valerian, a member of the Board of Trustees and an attorney, accompanied me to this meeting.

At this meeting Bishop Lennon read to me a formal declaration of canonical suspension, that is, removal, from priestly ministry. The fundamental charge made in this declaration was that the "so called" Community of Saint Peter was "not in communion with the Roman Catholic Church" and, therefore, my commitment to serving the community as pastor has placed me outside of communion with the Roman Catholic Church as well. In addition, by serving the community in sacramental ministry, I had violated the terms of my leave of absence.

I was given 7 days to remove myself from the community. If I refuse, the canonical suspension will immediately go into effect.

I will not comply with this decree and I intend to remain in solidarity with this community and will not remove myself as pastor of the Community of Saint Peter.

In addition, since I now know that I will neither be invited or allowed to return to Historic Saint Peter Church as its pastor, I will not nor cannot be involved in any aspect of the supposed reopening of the parish, or in its future.

I realize, given these developments, that the members of the Community will need further clarification as well as the opportunity to ask questions. I invite all registered members of the community to a meeting on Monday June 4th at 7:15 PM in our space at 7100. Please note, this meeting is open only to registered members of the Community of Saint Peter. Please bring this letter to verify you are such a member.

Sincerely,



Reverend Robert J. Marrone