

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

"A Caring Catholic Community"

11804 South Saginaw St.

Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Office (810) 694-4891

Fax (810) 694-1583

May 5, 2014

Dear Holy Family Parishioners and Holy Family School Parents,

As you may already know, Fr. Ken Coughlin has been placed on administrative leave, pending the outcome of an investigation into alleged inappropriate touching of hands and legs of school children at an assembly at the school last week.

This weekend, either Bishop Boyea or Monsignor Steven Raica read the following statement at the end of each Mass (at the two First Communion Masses they did not go into the specifics):

An allegation of inappropriate touching has been made against Father Ken Coughlin. The allegation involves touching of two students on their legs and hands. Father Coughlin denies that anything inappropriate happened. Under Michigan law and Diocese of Lansing policy, the Michigan office of Child Protective Services (CPS) has been notified, and an investigation has begun. The school, the parish, and the diocese are fully cooperating with the investigation. Until the investigation has been completed, Father Coughlin will be away from the parish on administrative leave. Please keep all involved in your prayers.

Bishop Boyea has asked me to serve as temporary Administrator of our parish during this investigation, and I will do all I can to help our parish and school community through this challenging time.

The Diocese of Lansing and Holy Family Church and School are committed to keeping all children safe. The steps we followed and will continue to follow in the future are focused on ensuring child safety.

Monsignor Raica, Chancellor of the Diocese of Lansing, along with Fr. Steve Mattson and Sean Costello from the Superintendent's Office will host a parish-wide meeting tonight (Monday) at 7:00 PM in the Church to discuss this matter and to respond to questions.

At this point, we await the outcome of the investigation from civil authorities. As Bishop Boyea has asked, and as I wholeheartedly concur, let us keep our entire community in our prayers. God is with us and for us.

Your servant in Christ,



Fr. Jonathan Perrotta,
Administrator of Holy Family Catholic Church