

**CHURCH OF SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO**

**HARLEM, NEW YORK**

28 August 2010

Feast of Saint Augustine of Hippo

My dear parishioners,

Since August sixth of 1989, it has been my special joy to address you with this salutation and to try my best to serve you faithfully. Now, sadly, I use it for the last time.

These recent years have brought a great sorrow on you, me and so many others. I am truly sorry for all this pain and suffering.

Amidst battling prostate cancer, controlling; diabetes, hypertension, arthritis, and vestibular imbalance, I approach my mid sixties as best I can. All my life I have maintained the solid hope that all things are worked by God to good. Whatever comes will have God's mark on it. This spiritual surrender has been prayed over, lived with, wept upon and offered up.

I will no longer serve you at the altar, in the pulpit, in the classroom or in any public ministry. I wish to retire to a private life as a priest. I assure you of my constant prayers.

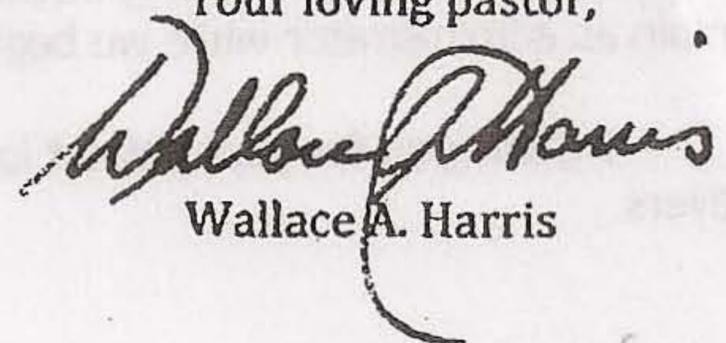
As I offer up my resignation as your pastor to Archbishop Dolan, I wish to thank him as well as so many others at the archdiocese for their special care and concern for all involved. I can bear no ill will toward anyone.

May I close with the blessing of the man whose feast we celebrate today:

"May Our Lord Jesus Christ give you a heart to love Him, a will to choose Him, and reasons to always stay close to Him. May the God of Love and mercy be with you eternally."

A thousand thanks-- always,

Your loving pastor,



Wallace A. Harris