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Update Regarding Rev. Bryan Medlin: Conclusion of Internal Investigation

June 24, 2022

Diocese of Gaylord



The Diocese of Gaylord's Office of Communications shares the following update regarding the investigation of Rev. Bryan Medlin:

In late 2021, the Diocese of Gaylord became aware of electronic messages sent by Father Bryan Medlin to a small number of high school students that appeared to violate diocesan policies and protocols. The diocese immediately referred its concerns to the Michigan Department of Attorney General (AG) and the Michigan State Police (MSP), which launched an investigation. Father Medlin stepped aside from all ministerial activities and was placed on administrative leave during the civil investigation.

In March 2022, the AG notified the diocese they would not be pursuing criminal charges against Father Medlin. With the conclusion of the AG's investigation, the diocese began its own investigative process to determine further action. Within the Catholic Church this is called the canonical process, separate and distinct from the civil law's criminal process. During this internal canonical investigation, which included consultation with the Diocesan Review Board, Father Medlin remained on administrative leave and did not engage in any ministerial activity.

The diocese has now concluded its internal, canonical review. After this detailed investigation, Father Medlin was found to have violated the diocesan Safe Environment Policy, including its standards of conduct as set out in the Protocols for Ministry to Minors. As a result, Father Medlin will remain indefinitely on administrative leave with ongoing monitoring by the diocese, and he is prohibited from public ministry and presenting himself as a priest. In addition, there will be ongoing consideration of further canonical proceedings.

The Most Reverend Jeffrey J. Walsh, bishop of Gaylord, states: