



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH

October 7, 2008

Rector, Wardens and Vestry

Dear Friends in Christ,

According to postings on the website of Across the Aisle, you have taken action, or plan to take action, to separate yourselves as a parish from the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh.

It is our prayer that you do not wish to separate yourselves from the Diocese, but whatever your position, we wanted to make you aware of the Stipulation and Order signed by President Judge Joseph M. James of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County. Specifically, the Stipulation and Order directs certain steps that a Parish Church shall take if it elects to disaffiliate with the Diocese. I have enclosed a copy of this Stipulation and Order.

In addition to the process set forth in paragraph 2 of the Stipulation -- a process the Diocese is committed to following -- if you have decided not to remain part of the Diocese, then we need to promptly schedule a time to discuss your parish's continued participation in various Diocesan insurance plans. The premiums the Diocese pays for such insurance are calculated based on Diocesan membership and are administratively funded from the parishes' Diocesan assessment. If your parish plans to no longer be part of the Diocese and therefore to no longer pay its Diocesan assessment, then this has both a practical impact (i.e. which parishes and individuals are governed by the Diocesan group policies) and a financial impact (i.e. the premiums due under the Diocesan group policies). These are issues we need to promptly address with all parishes which have decided to separate themselves from the Diocese.

You are in our prayers at this difficult moment in your parish leadership.

Faithfully,

Robert G. Devlin
Chancellor

Enclosure

One Church of Miraculous Expectation and Missionary Grace