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DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA  
*OFFICE OF THE BISHOP*

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January 7, 2019

Dear Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish,

As the Church concludes its celebration of the Christmas Season and transitions into a new Liturgical Season, it remains my hope that you will be blessed abundantly with peace, joy and good health.

After consultation with the Priest Personnel Board, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Reverend Rafal Ligenza, as the new Administrator of St. Joseph Parish, Bradenton, effective January 21, 2019.

Father Ligenza has previously served as Parochial Vicar of St. Columbkille Parish, Fort Myers, Parochial Vicar of St. William Parish, Naples, and many will recall his years at St. Joseph Parish. In his assignments, Father has shown that he is a man of prayer and deep pastoral solicitude for his people. I pray that he will bring many blessings and spiritual care to your parish community.

At this time, I wish to thank profoundly Father Sebastian Szczawinski for the spiritual care and guidance he has provided to all at St. Joseph Parish along with Father Shawn Roser during this time of transition. Father Sebastian will be returning to his assignment at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice.

Kindly welcome back Father Ligenza to the community of St. Joseph Parish in his new role and please keep him in prayer as he assumes his responsibilities as your Administrator.

I take this opportunity to extend to each of you, the Faithful of St. Joseph Parish, my greetings and prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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+ Frank J. Dewane  
Bishop of the Diocese of  
Venice in Florida

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