



TRINITY CLUSTER

~ ST. BRIDGET PARISH ~ ST. MARY PARISH ~ ST. PATRICK PARISH ~

STATEMENT FROM FR. NILS REGARDING CURRENT ISSUES AT ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH, MONONA

These remarks were delivered by Fr. Nils on Sunday, December 8, 2019 following James Moritz Annual Financial Report FY 2018-19.

“First, I would like to thank James Moritz, Parish Finance Council Chairperson for his message this morning. I also would like to thank David Sanger and Twila Dettman for staying beyond their term until the current issues are settled. I thank the other members Mary Sass and Bonnie Lange. Thank you for your commitment to our parish. (I hope I did not forget anyone.)

Second, I would like to clarify the role of the Parish Finance Council. They are ONLY an advisory board to the pastor. As the chief administrator of the parish and Cluster, I am responsible for making final decisions. I always listen to their advice and reflect on what they have to say. Again, I do listen! I respect the Parish Finance Council and take their advice seriously. I was given the responsibility when I became your pastor 5 ½ years ago, when Archbishop Michael came for my installation and I read my oath of fidelity to be faithful to the teachings of the Church. The Archbishop duly elected as successor of the Apostles appointed by the Holy Father and I have been entrusted by the Archbishop to be your pastor and to be faithful to the teachings. Hence, it is my duty as your pastor to take care of the spiritual and administrative needs of our Cluster.

Third, whenever I have to make important decisions, I do consult the Archdiocese of Dubuque, the Archdiocesan Finance Office and the Archdiocesan Attorney in order to make sure that I am following archdiocesan regulations. Please know that I have made the archdiocese aware of the current issues.

Finally, St. Patrick parishioners and other parishioners from the Cluster have said to me that this has gone on for a year (too long). Enough is enough! On this day, Sunday, December 8, 2019, I am saying enough is enough. I moved on from these issues a long time ago. And I am saying to those who do not want to let go but dwell in their negativity that we must move on. Let us move forward together.”