



CONGREGATIO
PRO CLERICIS

From the Vatican, 5 November 2018

Prot. N. 2018 3663

Mr. Adam VIRING *et alii*
36844 Highway 27
Hillman, MN 56338
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dear Mr. Viring,

I write in response to your petition for hierarchical recourse of 6 July 2018, regarding Holy Family Parish in Hillman and Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Garrison.

After corresponding with His Excellency, the Bishop of Duluth, it has become clear that the only canonical action taken thus far is the appointment of Reverend Elias Gieske as pastor of the two parishes, along with nearby parishes in Crosby and Deerwood (cf. can. 526 §1). This decision does not alter the distinct identity of Holy Family Parish, which remains a parish in its own right. Still less does it affect the status of the parish church.

It is noted that some of the announcements have not been clear in this regard, which is unfortunate. However, being that no decree has been issued that affects any change to the legal condition of the parish or its church, there is no precise object to your petition for recourse. Hence, it is hereby rejected in accord with the norms of article 137 §1 of the *General Regulations of the Roman Curia*. This decision is without prejudice to your right to present a petition for recourse against any future decrees in this matter.

With kind regards and prayerful best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Beniamino Cardinal Stella
Prefect

✠ Joël Mercier
Titular Archbishop of Rota
Secretary