



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PARMA OF THE RUTHENIANS

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
46/2019 L

July 30, 2019

Robert Flummerfelt
410 Rampart Blvd.-Suite 390
Las Vegas, NV 89145

Dear Mr. Flummerfelt,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

I have received your letter of 24 July 2019. I feel compelled to correct some misinformation contained within the text of your communication regarding the cathedral parish of Saint John the Baptist. First, I wish to clarify that there are no plans to suppress the cathedral parish. Discussions have been held in which a plan of merger with three other eparchial parishes is being considered.

It is also not factual that there has not been "any forum in which to make their opinions known." Three meetings- January 27, 2019, March 3, 2019 and June 16, 2019 have been held with parishioners, one at which I personally asked them for spiritual discernment regarding the whole situation, and at the other meeting it had been presented the state of the parish and its needs. Information regarding the financial status of the parish was disseminated at these meetings. Questions were presented and answers were given.

As Eparchial Bishop, it is my responsibility to practice good stewardship of eparchial resources as well as guide and direct the spiritual life of the people of God entrusted to my care. I am troubled by the absence of a wider and richer understanding of the nature of the local Church among the faithful; however, I understand and respect very much the attachment that the faithful have to their parish. My goal is to ensure that the future of the Eparchy of Parma is secure in all aspects. I ask for your assistance in helping the people of the cathedral parish understand the mission of the Church and their respective roles in it.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Milan Lach, S.J.
Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma