

January 11, 2007

Cardinal Adam Maida
Archdiocese of Detroit
1234 Washington Boulevard
Detroit, MI 38226

Dear Cardinal Maida,

We write to express our deep concern over the prohibition against Bishop Gumbleton remaining at St. Leo Parish as its administrator. Pastors beyond retirement age have remained as administrators of their parish if they wish and are in good health – as is the case with Bishop Gumbleton. We consider this decision to be ill-advised, whatever its source.

As you know, Bishop Gumbleton is beloved by the people of St. Leo's. This decision is against their wishes. It is a particularly disturbing instance of the archdiocesan direction toward clustering and/or merging viable parishes.

We ask to meet with you to clarify for us the source and rationale of this decision. We further request that no change be made at St. Leo until a more satisfactory resolution is reached that enjoys the support of both the people of St. Leo and the wider communion of parishes that make up the Church in Detroit.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

<i>Fr. Don Archambault</i>	<i>Fr. Gerry Bechard</i>	<i>Fr. Dave Buersmeyer</i>
<i>Fr. Paul Chateau</i>	<i>Fr. Jozo Cuić, OFM</i>	<i>Fr. Joe Dailey</i>
<i>Fr. Charles Fontana</i>	<i>Fr. Larry Jackson</i>	<i>Fr. Larry Kaiser</i>
<i>Fr. Bob Kollarz</i>	<i>Fr. Sigismund Kowalezyk</i>	<i>Fr. Ralph Kowalski</i>
<i>Fr. Tom Lumpkin</i>	<i>Fr. Chris Maus</i>	<i>Fr. Jim Mayworm</i>
<i>Fr. Jim Meyer</i>	<i>Fr. Bob Morand</i>	<i>Fr. Charles Morris</i>
<i>Fr. Dan Murphy</i>	<i>Fr. Bill McGoldrick</i>	<i>Fr. John Nowlan</i>
<i>Fr. Bill Petron</i>	<i>Fr. Frank Pollie</i>	<i>Fr. Larry Pettke</i>
<i>Fr. Leo Reilly</i>	<i>Fr. Joe Romano</i>	<i>Fr. Joe Ryder</i>
<i>Fr. Jim Scheick</i>	<i>Fr. Ed Scheuerman</i>	<i>Fr. Jerry Singer</i>
<i>Fr. Fabian Stominski</i>	<i>Fr. Don Sepiak</i>	<i>Fr. Norm Thomas</i>
<i>Fr. Terry Treppa</i>	<i>Fr. Don Walker</i>	<i>Fr. Don Werthy</i>
<i>Fr. Bob Wurm</i>		

(Our contact person is Fr. Tom Lumpkin: (313) 963-4539)