



ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS
CLERGY BULLETIN

April 10, 2011

Volume XII, Number 2, Revised

REGIONAL VICARIATES

Reverend and dear Fathers,

In August of 1984 my predecessor, the Most Reverend John R. Roach, divided the Archdiocese into three pastoral regions called Vicariates. Each region was placed under the governance of an auxiliary bishop, who became the episcopal vicar for the region. It was thought that dividing that Archdiocese in this way would to foster the pastoral care and faith life of the parishes and institutions of this local Church.

By 2000, the vicariate structure was no longer operative, and so it was provisionally suppressed by the Most Reverend Harry J. Flynn at the time that the deaneries were realigned. However, as a result of the Strategic Planning Process, the usefulness of the vicariate structure has again become apparent. Therefore, effective immediately, I am reestablishing three regional vicariates in this Archdiocese, as well as a Vicariate for Latino Ministry.

The three regional vicariates are outlined in the attached maps. They are:

Vicariate #1- Northwest

Vicariate #2- South

Vicariate #3- Northwest

For each vicariate, there will be an experienced pastor, selected and appointed by the Archbishop, who will serve as the regional vicar, or, in the case of Latino vicariate, as Vicar for Latino Ministry. The regional and Latino vicars will serve for a period of three years, and these appointments will be in addition to their parish assignments. Regional and Latino Vicars will be granted delegated authority as is required by their positions.

Regional vicars are to live within the pastoral districts of the region and both regional and Latino vicars will be involved in the life of the various parishes, schools, and institutions within their region or area of responsibility. They are to be of assistance to the pastors in exercising their office as pastor, and assist in addressing administrative issues that may arise. The vicars will receive delegation to conduct the parish visitations outlined in Canon 396 of the *Code of Canon Law* for the parishes in their region or area of responsibility. They will also have a consultative role within the Archbishop's Council and may be consulted by the Comprehensive Assignment Board on clergy appointments within their region or area of responsibility. Finally, they are to encourage the development and renewal of priestly ministry within their region or areas of responsibility, to assist in addressing administrative issues that may arise, and to foster greater cooperation in pastoral efforts.

This policy and the responsibilities of the Regional and Latino vicars will be reviewed and revised as needed by the ongoing implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Given at Saint Paul, Minnesota, this 10th day of April, in the year of Our Lord 2011. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.



The Most Reverend John C. Nienstedt
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis



Jennifer Haselberger
Chancellor for Canonical Affairs