



ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE  
2121 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE  
BRIGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02135-3193

September 1, 2004

Reverend Arthur M. Coyle  
Secretary for Pastoral Services  
2121 Commonwealth Avenue  
Brighton, MA 02135-3193

Dear Father Coyle:

I am writing to inform you that as part of the ongoing reconfiguration of the Church of Boston, "Rebuild My Church," and having received three recommendations through your office, after entering into consultation with others I am assigning the newly-merged Deaf Catholic Community, presently part of the A.S.L. Chaplaincy in Brighton and the Deaf Community Center in Sudbury, to be part of Sacred Heart Parish, Newton. The members of this faith community, both those who live within and outside the territorial boundaries of Sacred Heart Parish, will be considered parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish with all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities afforded to all parishioners. The effective date of this action is September 15, 2004.

In your position as Secretary for Pastoral Services, I ask you by way of copies of this letter, to inform Most Reverend Richard G. Lennon, Vicar General, Most Reverend Walter J. Edyvean, Regional Bishop, Very Reverend O. Wendell Verrill, Vicar Forane, Reverend John J. Connelly, Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Newton, Reverend Michael B. Medas, Director of the Archdiocesan Deaf Apostolate, and Reverend John P. Fitzpatrick, Director of the Deaf Community Center, of this action. Please consult with Reverend Richard W. Fitzgerald, Clergy Personnel Director, asking him to inform me of any assignment changes of clergy that are necessary as a result of this transition. Also, please notify Ms. Denise McKinnon of the Archdiocesan Finance Department and Ms. Susan Shakoor of the Parish Planning Office, asking them to ascertain that all personnel and fiscal issues regarding the establishment of this community in its new parish, are in conformity with the Code of Canon Law and Catholic Social teaching, and are in compliance with federal and state regulations as well as Archdiocesan policy and practices.

Father Coyle, please accept and extend to all who have helped and continue to help facilitate this transition – particularly the members of the Deaf Catholic Community themselves – my heartfelt gratitude for their prayerful discernment and tireless efforts. No change such as this, leaving a parish community that has truly become home, is ever easy. It is my profound hope that everyone will work together to assure that the Deaf Catholic Community will find a welcoming home at Sacred Heart Parish.

Asking God to bless you, and all those who serve the faithful of this Archdiocese, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
Archbishop of Boston