



DIOCESE OF TRENTON
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MINISTRARE NON MINISTRARI

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Parishioners of St. John Neumann Parish:

On Friday, June 24, the Abbot President of the Cistercians who serve in our parish, +Dom Eugenio Romagnuolo, visited me from Italy at the Chancery Office of the Diocese of Trenton. He informed me that he and his Council have decided to withdraw the Cistercians from St. John Neumann Parish and suppress or close the Monastery here. His decision is final and he presented me with the official "Decree of Suppression."

The Cistercians' decision will not alter the status of St. John Neumann parish. It will remain a parish of the Diocese of Trenton as it is at present.

The time of the Cistercians' actual departure from the parish has not yet been determined nor has the future use of the Monastery. When those decisions are made, an announcement will be made to the parish.

Please join me in expressing deep gratitude to the Cistercian community for their many years of service at St. John Neumann parish. May God be with our Cistercian priests as they return home.

Respectfully in the Lord,

Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D.
Bishop of Trenton