



Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania

August 27, 2018

Dear People of God,

By now you have heard that the ministry of Rev. Marek Zabriskie at St. Thomas' White Marsh will end on November 2nd 2018. Your ministry continues, however the departure of your priest raises all kinds of questions about the future of your parish and of your place in it. While I know that these feelings can be overwhelming right now, I want you to know that you will not have to face them alone.

During this transition your vestry will have the full support of our Canon for Transition Ministry, the Rev. Canon Arlette Benoit Joseph and our Canon to the Ordinary, the Rev. Canon Shawn Wamsley, and other diocesan staff and consultants to help them navigate this process as smoothly and spiritually as possible.

Canon Shawn Wamsley and Canon Benoit Joseph will meet with your vestry to help them to establish the way forward and I am confident that their wisdom, experience, and faith will be of great help to you.

Most importantly, I want to remind you that you are in God's hands. The Good Shepherd has guided you thus far and He will guide you through your priest's departure, through times of transition and ultimately will guide your discernment. God has already called your new rector. Our work together is to discern, pray, listen, and allow that call to come to life in our church and in our lives.

In the meantime, please be assured that you are in my prayers and I look forward to walking this path with you as your Bishop and your servant in Christ.

In Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Daniel G.P. Gutiérrez
XVI Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania