



# ARCHDIOCESE OF REGINA

445 Broad Street North, Regina, SK S4R 2X8 • Tel. 306 352-1651 • Fax: 306 352-6313

CHANCERY OFFICE

April 21, 2016

Dear Reverend Fathers and Reverend Deacons,

The Archdiocesan Annual Clergy Retreat is usually in the first week of May. It is not optional as all priests are required to be there. Canon 276, §2, 4<sup>o</sup> directs that all Clerics have a special obligation to attend the annual clergy retreat as determined by Diocesan particular law. ***Absence from the annual clergy retreat (even if for your private retreat) requires written permission of the Local ordinary.*** The Directory for the Pastoral Ministry of Bishops, (n. 83) says; The Bishop should consider the annual retreat a primary and essential element in the ongoing formation and for an authentic and personal encounter with God and for reflection on their personal life and ministry.

The Second Vatican Council, Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests, *PO* n. 7 says the priests of the diocese are a single presbyterium gathered around the bishop and united with him as co-workers in priestly, prophetic and pastoral ministry. *Lumen Gentium* n. 28 says; “All priests are bound together in an intimate brotherhood in the single presbyterium of the diocese” and this intimate sacramental brotherhood and mutual support of priests is expressed most tangibly when they gather together with the bishop at the Eucharist and at the retreat.

Funds for the retreat are to be paid by the parish or the parishes that the priest serves as a sign of their support and contribution to their priest’s spiritual growth and development. Usually, these funds are worked into the parish’s annual budget at the beginning of the fiscal year.

The Archdiocese will always endeavor to invite a spirit filled retreat preacher for the annual retreat. The retreat will be preceded by the annual clergy recognition dinner. All the clergy are warmly invited and strongly encouraged to come to the clergy retreat each year.

Sincerely your brother in Christ,

V. Rev. James Owolagba  
Chancellor

---