

DIOCESE OF ORANGE



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October 11, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: All Priests

From: Rev. Msgr. Mike Heher, Vicar General
on behalf of Bishop Tod D. Brown

Subject: PERSONNEL MATTERS ARE CONFIDENTIAL

Civil law requires personnel matters to be confidential. Successful pastors will tell you that it is also generally the best way to get employees, clergy and employers on the same page. Thus we do not make public statements about such matters, including that which may have taken place at St. Barbara Parish recently. There are a number of malicious rumors being spread and we do respond to them:

Fr. Dick Kennedy is on sick leave; he is not out of the parish for any other reason. He has not been accused of any sort of wrongdoing. Fr. Kennedy is a priest in good standing and deserves a reputation for being a zealous pastor.

Frs. Michael Hoan and Raphael Nguyen are also away from the parish at this time. There are good and just reasons for this; anything to the contrary is incorrect. They too remain priests in good standing.

Fr. Ed Poettgen, the Administrator, is coordinating coverage for the Vietnamese Masses and other responsibilities.

It is good pastoral practice to not respond to or spread rumors, innuendo and malicious gossip. The good name of our clergy and our employees should be protected.