

# CHRIST THE SERVANT PARISH

833 Thirty-ninth Street NW

September 11, 2014

Beloved of God,

In June of this year, I had asked the Bishop to consider accepting my resignation as president of Holy Cross Academy Catholic Schools. This past Friday, September 5, the Bishop and I discussed this request, and he agreed that I could return to full time parish ministry at Christ the Servant Parish, after the position is filled. This also comes at a time that we are experiencing a shortage of priests in the diocese.

I have been honored with my time as President and CEO, however, I believe after two and a half years (beginning in January of 2011) it is time to begin a search for another to fulfill the responsibility of president of Holy Cross Academy Catholic Schools. Catholic education has been and will continue to be a part of my life; in fact it has been for most of my 41 years as a priest. However, it is time to separate my role as pastor and role as president.

Whereas my role as president is a particular responsibility in my career as a priest; my role as pastor is who I am at the core of my life and fulfills my vocation as priest in essence. As I have often shared with you, my heart is with Christ the Servant, my home parish. It is where I began to discern my vocation many years ago; it is where my education and formation began; and it is where I believe I would like to be at this time in ministry, now that I have more years behind me than ahead of me.

I feel confident that now is the time for a leader who can give a total commitment, and an undivided commitment to Holy Cross Academy's growth and success. I can easily say – I will be 68 this month, and it is time to let someone else facilitate the ongoing commitment needed at this point in Holy Cross Academy's self- definition.

I look forward to being able to be full-time in my home parish - here at Christ the Servant and the Our Lady of Peace Campus. I ask your continued prayer for me, and assure you that you are remembered in my prayer each day.

In Love and Prayer,

Msgr. Lew Gaetano