



Ordine Dei Chierici Regolari Minori

Preposito Generale

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Letter to the Parishioners of St. Laurence

“Walking humbly with the Lord in Faith and Hope”

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May the **peace and grace of our Risen Lord** be with you all.

I write to you today with a **heart full of gratitude and hope** after having the privilege of participating in the **Parish open meeting**. It was truly a **blessing** to listen to your voices, to hear your concerns, and to witness your **love for St. Laurence Parish** and your deep desire to see it flourish.

I cannot agree more with **Pope Francis** when he describes the **Synodal Way as a journey of hope**—a path that allows the Church to **listen, discern, and walk together as one body in Christ**. What I have seen and heard in our conversations assures me that **the Holy Spirit is at work among you**.

Who Are the Adorno Fathers?

Many of you have raised important and valid questions:

- **Who are the Adorno Fathers?**
- **What are their plans for St. Laurence?**
- **What changes will come?**
- **What do they expect from our parish and community?**

I do not want these questions to remain unanswered, and I wish to **reassure you** that whatever changes may come, **they are not for the worse, but for the best**.

We are the **Adorno Fathers**, officially known as the **Clerics Regular Minor** (*Clerici Regulares Minores*). Our Order was founded in **Naples, Italy, on July 1, 1588**, by **St. Francis Caracciolo, Venerable Augustine Adorno, and Fabrizio Caracciolo**.

We are **religious priests who live in community**, bound by the vows of **chastity, poverty, and obedience**, as well as a **fourth vow—not to seek ecclesiastical dignities**. Our charism is centered on **the imitation of Christ in His Paschal Mystery—His suffering, death, and resurrection**. We strive to **lead people into a profound encounter with the Risen Christ** through the celebration of the **Eucharist, Eucharistic Adoration, and acts of charity**.



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Our mission is **not to take away from what is already good** but to **support, nurture, and strengthen the faith life of the people entrusted to us.**

A Future Filled with Promise

I know that with any transition, there may be concerns, questions, and uncertainties about what will change. But let me assure you: **whatever changes may come will be for the good of this parish and its people.**

1. **You will have more priests available to serve you.** No longer will the pastoral care of this parish rest on one priest alone. You will now have a **community of priests**, ensuring that there will **always be someone available to administer the sacraments, celebrate Mass, and respond to your spiritual needs.**
2. **Our presence will extend further into the parish.** With more priests serving here, we will now have the opportunity to **reach out to areas that have not yet been visited**, ensuring that **the pastoral care of St. Laurence extends to all corners of this community.**
3. **The liturgy will be enriched.** With our presence, we hope to **enhance the beauty and solemnity of the liturgy**, ensuring that together, we offer our best to the Lord in worship. This will be a collaborative effort, where **both your traditions and our contributions** come together to glorify God.
4. **The Holy Spirit will lead us to new and exciting ways to serve.** Change does not happen overnight, but as time unfolds, I believe that **the Lord will reveal many beautiful and fruitful opportunities for this parish.** We may not yet see the full picture, but if we allow the **Holy Spirit to guide us**, He will bring forth **abundant blessings** that we may not have even imagined yet.

Let us remember the words of the Lord in **Jeremiah 29:11**:

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

We trust that **this future for St. Laurence is one filled with God’s grace and guidance.**

A Commitment to Stay and Serve

As an **Order**, we intend to remain here for as long as we have **priests to serve you.** The **Adorno Fathers** are not here as **temporary visitors**, but as a **religious family that seeks to make St. Laurence Parish our home.**

Your priests **will live in your presbytery, not alone, but in community.** This is a fundamental part of our religious life—we **do not live in isolation but in communion, as brothers bound together by our sacred vows.** Each of our religious houses is



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guided by a **local superior**, who ensures that the priests assigned to your parish live faithfully according to our Rule and Constitution.

This is not only a structure of governance but a **living testimony** of what we preach: **that communion with God and with one another is not only possible but essential.** In a world that often promotes division and isolation, we strive to show that **a life of unity, love, and shared faith is not only desirable—it is the path to holiness.**

As **Psalm 133:1** says:

“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!”

An Invitation to Welcome and Support One Another

My dear friends, I ask for your **openness and kindness** as we begin this new chapter together. **We have not come to change what is already good, but to serve, to strengthen, and to build upon the faith that is already alive in this parish.**

Your synodal spirit of **inclusion and hospitality** has deeply moved me. You have expressed a desire to **welcome all who come through these doors—not just into your church, but into your hearts.** I now ask you, **as a father speaking to his beloved children in faith**, to extend that same spirit of welcome to **Fr. Robin and to Fr. Alex Francis, who will soon join him.**

Let us recall the words of **Jesus in Matthew 25:35:**

“I was a stranger, and you welcomed me.”

Please do not only make space for them in the presbytery—**make space for them in your hearts.** I know that **with your support, your kindness, and your patience, they will serve you with all their hearts.** And not just **Fathers Robin and Alex**, but **all of us, your new family—the Adorno Fathers.**

Walking Together in Faith and Hope

Our **founders, St. Francis Caracciolo, Venerable Augustine Adorno, and Fabrizio Caracciolo**, intercede for us, together with **your patron, St. Laurence the Deacon.**

The Lord has promised:

“I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding” (Jeremiah 3:15).

Indeed, **the Lord provides shepherds for His people.** Let us, in turn, **pray to the Lord of the harvest to send more laborers into His field (Matthew 9:38).**

I thank you, I bless you, and I **look forward to walking with you** in faith, hope, and love. **May this time of transition be filled with grace, understanding, and mutual**



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support, so that together we may build a parish that truly reflects the love of Christ.

I pray that this letter **answers some of your questions** and gives you a better understanding of **who we are and what we hope to bring to this beloved parish.**

With regard to **administrative matters**, I defer to **His Lordship, Bishop Peter Collins**, who, as your shepherd, will guide you according to the pastoral vision of the diocese.

May **the Risen Christ** fill your hearts with **joy, faith, and love**, and may you **encounter Him in every event of your life.**

Ad Maiorem Resurgentis Gloriam!

For the Greater Glory of the Risen Christ!

With my prayers and blessings,



Fr. Teodoro O. Kalaw, CRM

Preposito Generale, Clerics Regular Minor (Adorno Fathers)