



## *Diocese of Springfield*

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March 19, 2021

Dear Brothers,

Happy Solemnity of St. Joseph!

In January, Bishop Byrne asked me to chair a Priest Spirituality Committee for the Diocese. I am honored to serve in this capacity. We are committing to meet every other month and are truly blessed to have a great group of priests gathered together. I am thankful to Fathers Paul Norman, Jonathan Reardon, Matthew Guidi, Ryan Sliwa, Piotr Calik, Frank Furman, Sean McDonagh, Ryan Rooney, Robert Miskell, and Stanislaus Achu, who have agreed to serve on this committee under the direction of Bishop Byrne.

Our goals for the committee are as follows: to grow the spirituality of the Presbyterate both individually and collectively, to encourage priests to speak about their spiritual life and to encourage priests to gather and offer mutual support for one another.

We are planning regional Holy Hours for priests in four corners of the Diocese; Holy Family Parish in South Deerfield, St. Michael's Cathedral in Springfield, St. Mary's Parish in Westfield and St. Mark's Parish in Pittsfield. We will update the schedule in the Fall.

During Holy Hour, we will have exposition and benediction. Pastors who are hosting may preach a brief homily, delegate this responsibility or choose to remain silent. The main goal is for us to gather before Christ in the Eucharist. Any priest who chooses to come and hear confessions may wear a purple stole to show they are available.

Another event we would like to propose you is to conduct a Holy Hour after the Celebration of the Lord's supper on Holy Thursday. Please pray for our priests and the future priests of our Diocese and invite your parishioners to this event. This flyer and bulletin blurb were sent in a previous email.

Information for both of these events are attached. I pray these opportunities to gather become a source of blessing where we receive instruction, healing, consolation, and refreshment as we minister to the needs of the Diocese.

God bless you, and I look forward to praying together.

Sincerely yours,

Fr. David Aufiero