



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY IN KANSAS

OFFICE OF ARCHBISHOP SHAWN MCKNIGHT, S.Th.D.

20 September 2025

Dear sisters and brothers in the Lord and members of Curé of Ars Parish,

With a heavy heart, I inform you that Father Richard Storey resigned as pastor of Curé of Ars Parish this past Wednesday.

As you may have heard, the Prairie Village Police Department informed the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas of a criminal investigation involving Father Storey concerning another adult. The Archdiocese is fully cooperating with authorities so they can investigate the serious allegations being made against him. In addition, I have made provisions for a Church investigation to begin as soon as the police investigation is concluded.

In keeping with our commitment to the safety and well-being of all members of our community, Father Storey has been temporarily suspended from the exercise of all public ministry, including celebrating Mass and the other sacraments, pending the outcomes of formal investigations by local law enforcement and the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. Taking this precautionary measure is a step to protect all parties and should not be viewed as an assertion of guilt.

If you have any information which the police should know, please contact the Prairie Village Police Department (913-642-6868).

Our archdiocese takes all allegations of abuse and misconduct by church personnel very seriously and works to respond to survivors' needs with urgency, respect, and compassion. We encourage anyone with knowledge about any misconduct by a church volunteer, employee, religious or clergy member — regardless of when it may have occurred — to contact civil authorities first, and then call or text the archdiocese's confidential report line (at 913-276-8703 or online at www.archkck.org/reportabuse).

I have appointed Father John Riley, our Vicar General, as your parochial administrator. Please welcome him and work with him to continue the important ministries happening at Curé of Ars. He is ready to support you and ensure your plans will come to fruition.

This is a difficult time for your parish and our whole local church. It is devastating when someone who holds a leadership position in the Church faces an accusation of violating that sacred trust.

We can use this situation to reflect on our own response to our baptismal promise to love God and our neighbor. Our natural response is to devote our attention to the person we know, but as Christ's Church we must also be attentive to those who might have been harmed. The Lord hears the cry of the poor, and so should we.

I am committed to walking with you on this journey. May we all be inspired by your patron, St. John Marie Vianney, the Curé of Ars. His example of deep humility and his sincere devotion to God's mercy challenges us to be available and present to those in need, offering support, compassion, and understanding.

Please know I am praying for you each and every day, and I humbly ask for your prayers in return. I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Shawn McKnight, S.Th.D.
Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas