



Bishop of Harrisburg

August 31, 2011

Mr. David M. Drew
Chairman
Ss. Peter & Paul Roman Catholic Mission
PO Box 7352
York, PA 17408

Dear Mr. Drew,

I received your letter asking a clarification of the term "schism" being used in reference to the Saints Peter and Paul mission that you chair. The reality is that the group you represent and call a mission was not established by the Roman Catholic Church. The priests who celebrate the liturgy are men who have either been censored by their Bishops or have been prohibited from exercising their priesthood in the name of the Church.

The fact of the matter is that the extraordinary form of the liturgy is celebrated here in the Diocese of Harrisburg in conformity with the Apostolic Motu Proprio "Summorum Pontificum" of Pope Benedict XVI. The group that you have gathered does not have the approval of the local Bishop and is not authorized to present itself as a part of the Roman Catholic Church.

It is for this reason that Diocesan officials have warned the faithful of our Diocese to avoid participating in the activities being sponsored by your group.

I pray that you and those associated with your mission may recognize the authority of the Church and cease your activities.

Sincerely yours in Jesus,

Most Reverend Joseph P. McFadden
Bishop of Harrisburg

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