

## ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

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OFFICE FOR CLERGY

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VICAR FOR CLERGY

August 13, 2013

[BACK](#)

Reverend Samuel M. Waters  
2440 Fairway Drive  
West Manchester Twp., PA 17408

[HOME](#)

Dear Father Waters,

I received your letter of July 25, 2013. The clarifications you provided are encouraging, but unfortunately you are still not inclined to end your affiliation with Ss. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Mission in York, Pennsylvania.

In the interest of clarity and charity, I must now provide you with the attached Decree declaring a *latae sententiae* excommunication. This is a serious matter, but one which can be regularized.

I remain available to assist you in your taking part in the life of the Roman Catholic Church in a manner that is consistent with your vocational state.

You remain in my thoughts and prayers.

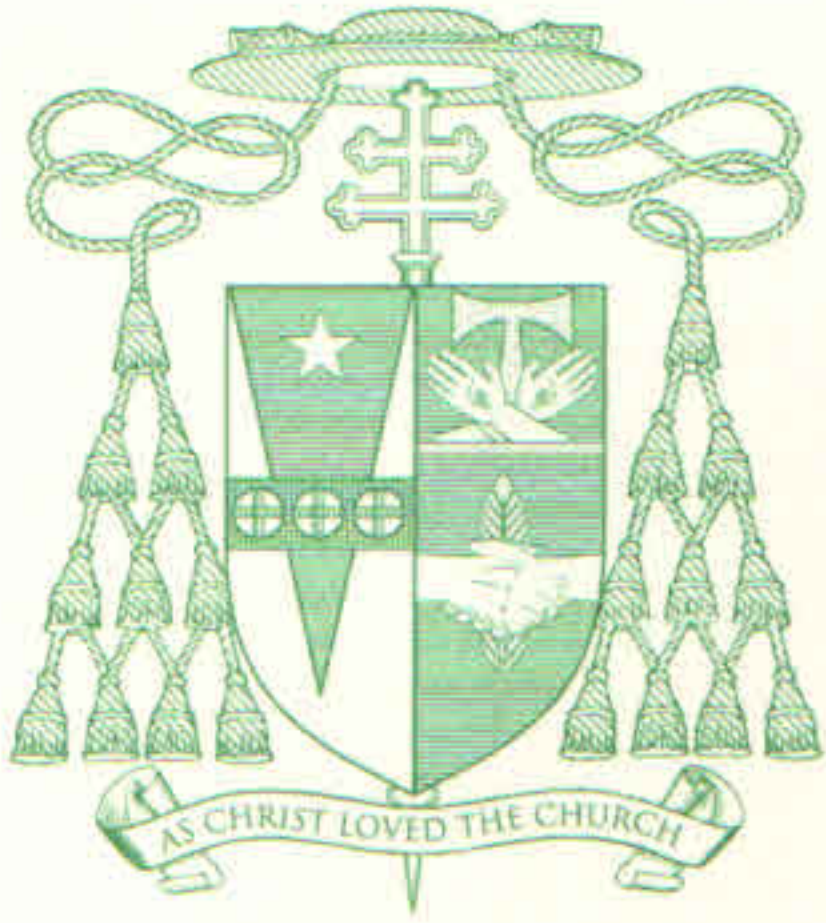
Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel J. Sullivan".

Reverend Monsignor Daniel J. Sullivan  
Vicar for Clergy

c: Very Reverend Robert M. Gillelan, Jr.  
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia  
Diocese of Harrisburg





Archdiocese of Philadelphia  
Office of the Archbishop  
222 North 17th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

## DECREE

Since it has been proven, through an investigation, that **Reverend Samuel M. Waters**, a priest of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, formally defected from the Catholic Church by joining "Saints Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Mission," in York, Pennsylvania, a schismatic group, and since he has been contumacious in his intention to remain in schism rather than return to the full communion of the Roman Catholic Church, and because his delict is public: it has been determined that he incurred a *latae sententiae* excommunication, in accord with canon 1364 of the Code of Canon Law.

In order to repair the scandal caused by his actions, and to encourage his reconciliation with the Roman Catholic Church as soon as possible, I hereby declare that this *latae sententiae* excommunication has, in fact, been incurred by Father Waters and, by virtue of this declaration, the remission of this censure is reserved to the local ordinary.

Father Waters is informed of the following results of this action:

In accord with canon 1331, §1, he "is forbidden: 1° to have any ministerial participation in celebrating the sacrifice of the Eucharist or any other ceremonies of worship whatsoever; 2° to celebrate the sacraments or sacramentals and to receive the sacraments; 3° to exercise any ecclesiastical offices, ministries, or functions whatsoever or to place acts of governance."

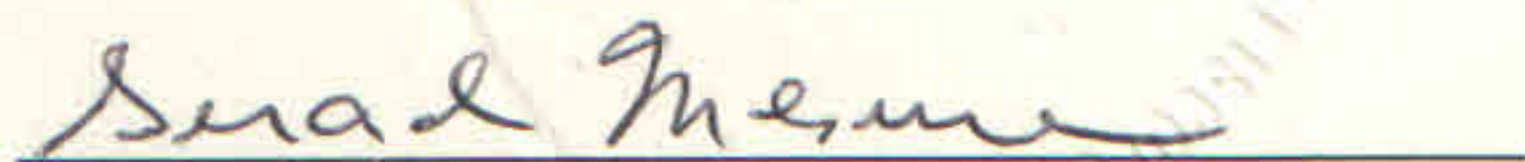
In accord with canon 1331, §2, since the *latae sententiae* penalty has been declared, he "1° who wishes to act against the prescript of §1, 1° must be prevented from doing so, or the liturgical action must be stopped unless a grave cause precludes this; 2° invalidly places acts of governance which are illicit according to the norm of §1, 3°; 3° is forbidden to benefit from privileges previously granted; 4° cannot acquire validly a dignity, office, any function, or pension, which he has in the Church."

In accord with canon 1364, §1, he can be punished in the future "with the penalties mentioned in can. 1336, §1, 1°, 2° & 3°; §2. If contumacy of long duration or the gravity of scandal demands it, other penalties can be added, including dismissal from the clerical state."

Finally, in accord with canon 1044, §1, 2°, he has incurred an irregularity for the exercise of orders received.

  
Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M., Cap.  
Archbishop of Philadelphia

SEAL



Reverend Monsignor Gerard C. Measure  
Chancellor  
August 12, 2013

BACK

HOME