



Office of the Bishop

May 8, 2020

My Dear Brother Priests,

These are enormous difficult days in which we have all been challenged to refashion our pathways of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and remaining close to our people. These are also days in which our parishes and schools have shown great creativity in finding new ways to bring the life of the church to their communities.

On April 29th the Presbyteral Council had a lengthy discussion on Flocknote, a vehicle for communication and evangelization for catechesis which has been beneficial. Marioly Galván was present and accompanied by Matt Sewell from Flocknote, they introduced a proposal for a diocesan-wide communications strategy that would allow parishes to communicate broadly and effectively. In essence, this program offers the following benefits:

- Access for parishes to have a database that can be easily updated and kept.
- Ability to communicate with parishioners via unlimited text messaging and email.
- Capability to create newsletters, bulletins, and easily share multi-media resources across a variety of social media platforms.
- Electronic Communications that is safe environment compliant.
- Parishes can categorize a variety of ministerial groups by areas of interest.
- Information can be easily imported into Flocknote with ability to export into reports.
- Flocknote staff support and training provided for all parishes.

The Presbyteral Council unanimously approved the proposed implementation of Flocknote throughout the diocese. Therefore, in line with the overwhelming support that was received, an agreement has been signed to partner with Flocknote for one year in which the Diocese of San Diego will provide a membership for all parishes within the diocese at no cost. There is no limit to the number of members any given parish may have. For those parishes who already had an account with Flocknote, a representative will contact you to notify you of the partnership we have established as a diocese. From here on, you will no longer receive a bill. There will be no cost to any of our parishes.

A diocesan Flocknote account has been created. To register your parish and begin the process, please visit: www.flocknote.com/sandiego. Once your account has been created, you will be contacted by the Flocknote team to complete the process. As more information becomes available, Marioly will serve as your point of contact to communicate any updates. You may reach her at mgalvan@sdcatholic.org or 858-490-8237.

I encourage you to take this opportunity to broaden your parish and ministerial communications. Utilize this resource as a means for evangelization and pastoral outreach.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert W. McElroy