



May 12, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the fall of 2022, I received an allegation of an inappropriate consensual relationship between Father Patrick Klekas and an adult woman. The relationship occurred in 2020 when Father Klekas was serving as associate pastor at St. Albert the Great parish. Father Klekas acknowledged his conduct and agreed to comply with our procedures for dealing with breaches of priestly vows.

Upon learning of the relationship and in keeping with our policies for such misconduct, I suspended Fr. Klekas from ministry, notified his parish and offered pastoral care and counseling to the woman and her husband. Since that time, Fr. Klekas has been in a program of counseling and discernment away from the Diocese. He completed his program and was discharged in April with recommendations for after-care. The Diocese will work with him to ensure those recommendations are followed.

The response of the Diocese has been guided throughout by our Adult Misconduct Review Board. The Board is composed of lay professionals who review cases of misconduct by clergy or other church personnel and offer recommendations based on their respective areas of professional expertise.

With the support of the Adult Misconduct Review Board, I am restoring Father Klekas to ministry beginning July 1, 2023. He will join the staff of St. Gall parish in Gardnerville and will be under the supervision of Father Mark Hanifan, an experienced pastor.

Please know that I take my responsibility to ensure clergy who serve the People of God are fit for ministry very seriously. We invite anyone who believes he or she has been harmed by misconduct to come forward and receive the help and healing they deserve.

Sincerely yours,

+  Daniel Mueggenborg

Most Rev. Daniel H. Mueggenborg
Bishop of Reno