



## DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

Archbishop Noll Catholic Center  
915 South Clinton Street, P.O. Box 390  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

**Very Rev. Mark A. Gurtner, J.C.L.**

*Office of the Vicar General/Chancellor*

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: PASTORS  
FROM: FATHER GURTNER  
DATE: JUNE 18, 2019  
RE: GIFTS FROM PARISH FUNDS ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEPARTING  
OF A PRIEST FROM A PARISH

It has become known that on some occasions, monetary or other gifts from parish funds have been given to priests who are departing a parish because of transfer, retirement, or some other reason. Often these gifts have been given at the request of the parish staff or the parish finance council. However, this is an improper use of parish funds, and neither the parish staff nor even the parish finance council can authorize such gifts. While gifts given in the past do not need to be returned, **the policy from this notice forward shall be that no such gifts are authorized.**

Certainly, if on the occasion of the departure of a priest from a parish the priest receives private gifts, monetary or otherwise, these are his to keep and to do with as he pleases.