January 11, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

These last two months have been a time of particular difficulty for many of you as parishioners of St. Catherine of Siena Parish. In light of a number of issues that have impacted you very directly, I realize that you have many questions and that you are frustrated by the limitations we must currently observe, as am I; and I understand how dissatisfying that is. I also want you to know that being limited by legal restrictions, which are rooted in good reason, goes against what my pastoral heart would prefer. In particular, as our Diocese, along with the other six Dioceses in Michigan, remain under investigation, we are not free to offer more specific details or to have additional dialogue.

I want you to know that I have received the letters, e-mails, and other messages that some of you have sent, and I take each and every one of them very seriously. In due time, I intend to work for solutions to each concern.

In light of this climate, which unfortunately continues, it is my belief that it would be more prudent to postpone the Healing Mass that I intended to celebrate at St. Catherine of Siena Parish this Thursday evening, January 17th, until a time when we will not be distracted by these ongoing concerns, and until such time when I will be able to discuss these matters with you in greater detail, as is my desire to do.

Please be assured of my regret for whatever disappointment or inconvenience this postponement of the Mass of Healing may cause, and know that I earnestly look forward to rescheduling this Mass, with opportunity for dialogue, at the earliest possible time.

Asking our Loving Father's abundant blessings on each of you and your families as we celebrate His Son Jesus' Baptism, and our incorporation into the Body of Christ through our own Baptisms, I remain

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+Paul J. Bradley

Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley
Bishop of Kalamazoo