



March 5, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Holy Spirit and St. John the Baptist parishes,

Peace be with each of you. It is with a heavy heart that I am writing to share some difficult information about your pastor, Father Carlos Orozco. I have placed Father Orozco on administrative leave of absence for sexual misconduct with an adult.

Father Orozco has acknowledged this misconduct and recognizes that his behavior contradicts the commitments and responsibilities of his priestly ministry.

During this time, Father Orozco will refrain from publicly presenting himself as a priest, celebrating liturgies and participating in pastoral care and outreach. He will also refrain from communicating via social media and with staff and parishioners.

Due to the unexpected absence of Father Orozco, the Office of the Vicar for Clergy is working diligently to find pastoral coverage for your parish family and will provide updates to you shortly. I wish to thank the auxiliary bishops for stepping in this weekend and for the leadership of your parochial vicars and parish staff who are covering Father Orozco's other pastoral and administrative responsibilities. They have remained steadfast in serving the mission of the Church despite the emotional toll this news has undoubtedly had on each of them.

News like this is very surprising and can be extremely upsetting. I encourage you to support and pray with and for each other during this trying time. Please know that my team at the Chancery and I are here to support your parish staff, your parochial vicars and your parish family community. We are also providing support to Father Orozco and the individual who came forward.

Anyone who has knowledge of sexual misconduct by a member of the clergy, Archdiocesan employee, or volunteer is urged to call the Archdiocesan Helpline at 1-800-446-7762.

Please join me in praying for all involved in this very difficult situation and be assured of my continued prayers for you. As always, I remain,

In the Heart of Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul D. Etienne".

Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL  
Archbishop of Seattle