



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SAGINAW

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March 19, 2018
Solemnity of Saint Joseph

Reverend Mr. Jerome Green
St. Vincent de Paul Parish
168 E. Wright Avenue
Shepherd, MI 48883

Dear Jerome,

In my letter to you calling you to Diaconate, I reminded you of the words and teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ: *"You have not chosen me, I have chosen you."* Likewise, the call to Priesthood remains wholly the will and discretion of the Lord Himself.

The Bishop, together with the Church, is entrusted with the solemn task of discerning this call for each man commissioned to serve with him, as a co-worker in the vineyard, in order to fulfill the apostolic mission entrusted to us by Christ.

I acknowledge your formal petition to be ordained to the Sacred Order of Priesthood. Please know that I have prayerfully reflected upon your years of formation and your various pastoral ministries and have consulted with members of the presbyterate and those knowledgeable of your years of preparation. Relying on the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I now extend to you the Call to Priesthood. It is my intention to ordain you a priest on Friday, June 1, 2018 in the Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption. Details regarding this liturgy will be shared with you in the upcoming weeks. I remind you of the canonical responsibility to make a suitable retreat in preparation of your ordination.

In speaking to his parishioners, Saint John Vianney said: *"The priest is not a priest for himself, he is a priest for you."* May the words of this holy saint inspire you to be a priest in the image of the Good Shepherd who came not to be served but to serve.

With fraternal and prayerful best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Joseph R. Cistone, D.D.
Bishop of Saginaw