



PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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We are sincerely saddened to report that Father Richard J. McGrath, O.S.A., has retired as President of Providence Catholic High School, effective immediately. This action is in response to an investigation by civil authorities of an allegation of potentially inappropriate material on his mobile device. The Diocese of Joliet and the Augustinian Order have followed the accepted protocol for responding to such allegations and are cooperating with the local authorities.

We wish to assure everyone that in responding to any such allegation our highest priority is and will remain the safety and well-being of our students at Providence Catholic and all children.

We ask everyone to refrain from speculation in this matter, as the investigation continues. As this is an active investigation, officials of the school, diocese, and order are not at liberty to comment further.

Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A., will serve as Acting President until Father McGrath's successor is chosen. Fr. Merkelis will continue to serve as Pastoral Director at Providence Catholic during this period of transition.

Please keep the Providence Family in your prayers.

Very Rev. Bernard C. Scianna, Prior Provincial, Midwest Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel

The Diocese of Joliet