



Office of the Bishop

Memorandum to the Priests of San Diego

From: Bishop McElroy

It is with deep sadness that I convey to you that Father Mike Ratajczak died yesterday. Two weeks ago Mike called me and told me that his doctor had found a massive brain tumor and scheduled immediate surgery. He told me that he was ready in joy to continue to lead his parish community or to meet God.

The surgery occurred, but Father Mike never recovered. His death is a great loss for our presbyterate, the parish community of Saint Thomas More, and the family that loved him deeply.

I am especially grateful to Father Mike for his wonderful pastoral solicitude, for the magnificent Church that he built at Saint Thomas More, and for the even more beautiful community of faith that he built there. Additionally, I am grateful that Mike built an inclusive community of parishioners who welcome all.

The funeral plans have not been finalized yet, but I wanted to let you know of his death so that you can pray for him and for his family.