

Reverend William J. Scanlan

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Dear Paul,

I enjoyed and appreciated our most recent update / discussion .

Allow me to summarize

At present the 'Leave' seems to have done a lot of good on all levels not merely the physical. Yes, I still have heart damage but what is there seems to be working better these days. The ITP has either been cured or is in remission (I'll take either). In short, although the Doctors have not yet given a 'green light' ... I strongly desire to return to priestly work. However, I do not believe a parish assignment would be in my best interests or the interests of a parish.

After all your kindnesses (you, the Cardinal and the diocese in general) I hope my next request does not appear ungrateful. At this time Paul, I could truly use a change of scene i.e. perhaps an assignment outside of the diocese, at least for a time. During my last two years at St. James I was a kind of 'director' for a VA chaplain. In conversation recently this chaplain has encouraged me to consider VA chaplaincy. Upon reflection and exposure to this work and a sensitizing and re-education concerning the military and their pressures, I believe that I have something to offer in this role. I therefore request the needed permissions to pursue such a position.

I believe this position would suit my present needs and experiences, a change of scene and my earlier experience as an 'instutional' chaplain. Remember, I have also done a fair amount of 'field work' in the role of patient. I believe I have the experiences, training and genuine concern to be effective in this particular chaplaincy role.

Please ask the Cardinal to continue to be generous in his response to this latest request to allow the pursuit of such a position.

With gratitude and respect,



Reverend William J. Scanlan

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