



Dear Friends,

When I learned that *Encountering Christ* would benefit our diocese's retired priests through the expansion of the St. John Paul II Residence for Priests, I was overjoyed. This residential center is an important ministry to our retired priests — and is now at capacity.

Priests dedicate their lives to their parishes and, in gratitude for their vocation, these communities care for them throughout their active ministry. But after so many years of sacrifices, many of these men find themselves alone. At the residence, our retired priests celebrate daily Mass, share meals and enjoy fellowship with their brother priests. They are a family and a community.

It is heartbreaking to have to turn a priest away because we lack the space for them at the St. John Paul II Residence for Priests. Thank you for your sacrificial gifts to this campaign, and for helping us take care of these men who served us all so well.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Deacon Mike Aaronson
Minister to Retired Priests