



# DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE

P.O. Box 969  
422 Washington St.  
Steubenville, OH 43952

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 21, 2019

Dino Orsatti  
Diocese of Steubenville  
Director of Communications  
Editor, The Steubenville Register  
Office: 740 282-3631, ext. 340  
Email: dorsatti@diosteub.org

### **Bishop cuts several departments in the diocese**

STEUBENVILLE — Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton announced that four positions in the chancery have been eliminated and one position has been reduced to part-time in order to “make the diocese operate more efficiently and still be able to sustain the level of services.” The positions eliminated included the executive assistant to the bishop, the director of stewardship and development, as well as both employees in the information and technology department. The assistant to the director of stewardship and development has been reduced to a part-time position.

An ad-hoc committee was formed several months ago, that included people from inside and outside of the chancery, to evaluate every position in the chancery. Surveys were also filled out by chancery and parish staffs, as well as school administrations. Recommendations were then made to the bishop on how to improve the financial situation. Bishop Monforton said, “These cuts were extremely difficult to make and I am thankful for our employees many years of service to the diocese.”

The work of the IT department will be outsourced and the duties of the other workers, whose jobs and departments were eliminated, will be absorbed by several chancery employees.

As the bishop stated in the May 4, 2018 edition of The Steubenville Register, “payroll taxes were withheld from employees’ checks between 2004 and 2016, but the former comptroller didn’t send the money to the appropriate taxing authorities. The diocese had to pay \$3.5 million to proper taxing authorities by liquidating unrestricted diocesan investments.”

The diocese self-reported the findings from an independent audit to federal, state and local authorities. The diocese is awaiting their decisions on whether any criminal action will be taken against those responsible for their actions.



# DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE

P.O. Box 969  
422 Washington St.  
Steubenville, OH 43952

Bishop Monforton said while the diocese implemented various cost-cutting efforts in the wake of last years' discovery concerning the finance department, he said he will continue to look for ways to save the diocese money.

#####