

Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP,

was installed as founding pastor at the official opening Mass of the parish, the Solemn Mass of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Prior to the installation of Rev. Van Vliet, a letter from His Eminence, Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston was read acknowledging the formal erection of the personal parish. Msgr. Daniel Scheel, Episcopal Vicar of the Western Vicariate, represented His Eminence in the installation ceremony.

Cardinal DiNardo extended an informal welcome to the FSSP in December 2009, and in September 2011, Fr. Van Vliet arrived in Houston. On Feb. 21, 2012, the Presbyteral Council of the Catholic Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston approved, on the recommendation of His Eminence, the establishment of the personal parish.

Regina Caeli Parish will be the only parish in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston in over 40 years to offer exclusively the Traditional Rite to the faithful. The parish will be in north west Houston on forty acres donated by a parishioner and FSSP supporter Betty White for that purpose.

This day marks a historical day for the Catholic community and the City of Houston. Our congratulations to the community on this momentous day.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Houston to be affixed this 15th day of August, 2013

Helena Brown Houston Council Member District A