

MICHAEL C. BARBER, S.J.  
BISHOP OF OAKLAND



2121 HARRISON STREET,  
OAKLAND, CA 94612  
510.267.8316

December 19, 2018

Dear Santa Maria Parishioners,

Upon the expiration of his 5 year term as Vicar General, in December this year, Father George Mockel requested that his term not be renewed so he could devote full time to his parish responsibilities at Santa Maria in Orinda.

Upon further reflection and serious consideration of his request, I have asked Father Mockel to remain as Vicar General of the Diocese of Oakland. His dedication to our Diocese over these years has been invaluable in helping me in my ministry as Bishop and in serving the faithful of the Diocese of Oakland. He has done an excellent job as the Vicar General of our diocese and has always served with prudence, wisdom and discretion.

I am grateful to Fr. Mockel for agreeing to my request and for his loyalty. He has assured me he will continue, to the best of his ability, to give full energy and devotion to both responsibilities as well as Director of the Office of the Propagation for the Faith.

St. Paul says "Men should regard us as servants of Christ and administrators of the mysteries of God." (1 Cor. 4:1-16). I thank Father Mockel for his continued service and dedication to Christ's flock that has been entrusted to our care and most especially at Santa Maria Parish. May the Lord continue to bless him in his ministries in our Diocese.

With the assurance of my prayers and blessing, I remain,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

*+ Michael Barber S.J.*

The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J.  
Bishop of Oakland

*For the greater glory of God*