



Dear friends,

I hope you are all well as we enter into ordinary time and the summer season. I have some truly happy and joyous news to share with you all today!

I am very pleased to announce, finally, who is the next Executive Director of Courage!

Fr. Brian Gannon is a priest of the Diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut. He has been a long-time friend of Courage. He also provided assistance to Fr. Paul Check, who placed Courage on the firm foundation that it is today. Fr. Gannon is pastor of St. Theresa in Trumbull, Connecticut, a position which he will continue to serve as he takes on **his new role as the Executive Director of Courage**. The parish is just down the street from the office, so he will be able to give Courage the attention it needs.

In his pastoral work, Fr. Gannon is in the process of reconfiguring his parish grade school curriculum to provide students with a strong classical education. He is a leading priest in the Diocese of Bridgeport and well respected by his peers and was nominated for this position by Bishop Caggiano, chair of our Episcopal Board.

But he is not the only one to be joining the work of Courage.

Sr. Gilmary Kay, RSM, will be joining the pastoral staff of Courage alongside Fr. Gannon and Fr. Blatchford. Sr. Gilmary is a Religious Sister of Mercy of Alma, Michigan, and has most recently served as the Delegate for Religious in the Archdiocese of Washington, DC. While she is also new to the work of Courage, she brings a rich background of work history that is common to sisters in her religious order: teaching, serving the poor, and working with various other populations to bring them to Jesus.

Sister will be working with our EnCourage families and assisting Fr. Salzillo with our Courage ladies, in addition to reviving the Truth and Love Conferences over the coming years.

I cannot wait to introduce both Fr. Gannon and Sr. Gilmary to you all at our annual conference in Mundelein next month!

As always, please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to take these leadership roles in our community.

Finally, know of my prayers and esteem for you. It has been a humbling and beautiful experience for me to be a shepherd of this community over the last year, plus I am so very grateful to the Lord for bringing this to me, even in this temporary capacity.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Kyle Schnippel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Father Kyle Schnippel
Interim Executive Director