



# The Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin

*The Central Third of California*

February 11, 2020

Sisters and Brothers of St. James, Cathedral,

I trust by now most of you have heard the news regarding the health of our Cathedral Dean, Ryan Newman. If you are unaware, Ryan fell ill last week at the close of our Clergy Conference at ECCO. Fortunately, Erin, Ryan's wife was with him. Ryan was admitted at Clovis Community Hospital on Saturday with concerns of a heart attack. Since then he has been diagnosed with Myocarditis which is an inflammation of the heart muscle and potentially leads to a high risk of heart failure. As you would hope and expect, hospital staff is monitoring Ryan quite closely. I write this "pastoral letter" on Tuesday and every indication to date is that Ryan will remain in hospital through the week. Additionally, Ryan will need time away from his "deanship" responsibilities in order to recover.

I write this letter because I know Ryan, Erin and Lexie want you to know. I write this letter because I join with Cathedral and Diocesan Staff wanting you to know. And lastly, we all want you to know because as we share in community and faith and love, the very best thing we can do now and in the days before us, is to pray. Please Sisters and Brothers pray. Pray for Ryan and Erin and Lexie. Pray for one another. Pray for us all.

During Ryan's absence, I and my staff, will increase our engagement with the Cathedral Community. This will be most evident during Sunday Services when and where our calendars can be amended.

Dean Ryan has offered extraordinary leadership to and within our Cathedral Community. I will do everything I can to ensure that his and your good work continues in the time Ryan is recovering.

If you have questions or concerns, I ask that you direct them to my office, Deacons Nancy, Terrance, and Angela, the wardens, Stan Boone and Pete Cabbiness, or the cathedral administrator Kourinthia.

My daily prayers continue for us all particularly for the Newman Family.

Blessings  
+David