



## CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH

Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth  
For Immediate Release  
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### Statement by the Diocese of Fort Worth regarding Father Richard Kirkham

The Congregation for Clergy at the Vatican in a decree dated June 7, 2019 has ruled that Father Richard Kirkham's resignation of June 4, 2018 as pastor of St. Martin de Porres in Prosper is valid. In its ruling, the Congregation also recognized that a new pastor of the parish was properly appointed by Bishop Olson and, under Catholic Canon law, Father Kirkham remains a priest of the Diocese but must vacate the parish rectory.

The Congregation has lifted the suspension of Father Kirkham, but he is without assignment. Bishop Olson will assess how to proceed after meeting with Father Kirkham; however, he will not return as pastor of St. Martin de Porres.

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