

To: The Catholic Herald Magazine  
From: Office of the Bishop  
Re: **Official Column** for Catholic Herald (January/February Issue)  
Date: November 4 , 2024

**“Official”**

**Bishop Jaime Soto has made the following canonical appointments:**

**PRIESTS**

**Effective September 30, 2024**

Very Rev. Michael **O’Reilly**, previously Parochial Administrator of St. Elizabeth Parish, Sacramento, has ended his term as Parochial Administrator of St. Elizabeth Parish, Sacramento. He remains Rector of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Sacramento.

**Effective October 1, 2024**

Rev. Raj R. **Derivera**, previously on a Leave of Absence, has been appointed to provide priestly ministry at St. Basil Parish, Vallejo, and pastoral care at St. Patrick-St. Vincent High School, Vallejo.

Rev. Michael J. **Estaris**, while continuing to assist at Calvary Cemetery & Funeral Center and at the Tribunal, as needed, has been appointed half-time Parochial Vicar at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Sacramento.

Rev. Mhanna Joseph **Kallas**, a priest of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles, has been appointed Pastor of St. Elizabeth Parish, Sacramento.

Rev. Philip J. **Wells**, a retired priest, has been appointed Priest-in-Charge *Pro-tem* of Sacred Heart Parish, Anderson.

**Effective October 3, 2024**

Rev. Abraham Poovathummoottil **Thommy**, a priest from the Archeparchy of Kottayam, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph Parish, Vacaville.

**Effective October 15, 2024**

Rev. Marcel **Emeh**, SDS, previously Parochial Vicar of Holy Trinity Parish, El Dorado Hills, has been appointed Parochial Administrator *Pro-tem* of St. Theresa Parish, South Lake Tahoe.

**Effective October 28, 2024**

Rev. Paul **Zirimenya**, a priest from the Archdiocese of San Francisco, has been granted faculties to minister to the Deaf Community in the Diocese of Sacramento.

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Rev. Saju Moolakkatt **Mathews**, a priest from the Archeparchy of Kottayam, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Isidore Parish, Yuba City.

**Effective November 1, 2024**

Rev. Phillip **Donlan**, CP, in residence at Christ the King Retreat Center, Citrus Heights, has been elected to the Presbyteral Council as a representative of the West Placer Deanery constituency.

Rev. Eric M. **Patrick**, Parochial Vicar of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Sacramento, has been elected to the Presbyteral Council as a representative of the Southern Suburbs Deanery constituency.

Rev. German **Ramos**, Parochial Administrator of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Oroville, has been elected to the Presbyteral Council as a representative of the Sutter Buttes Deanery constituency.

DEACONS

**Effective September 21, 2024**

Deacon Rick **Morales**, previously on a Leave of Absence, has been assigned to St. Joseph Mareello Parish, Granite Bay.

**The following notice is also given:**

**Effective September 18, 2024**

Rev. Raphael **Nwokolo**, previously a supply priest in the Diocese of Sacramento, has left the diocese.

**Effective September 24, 2024**

Rev. Jossy **Vattothu**, CMI, previously Parochial Vicar of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Sacramento, has left Diocese.

**Effective October 14, 2024**

Rev. Julius **Kaburu**, previously Parochial Vicar of St. John the Baptist Parish, Folsom, has left the Diocese.

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**Effective October 15, 2024**

Rev. Joseph **Sebastian**, CMI, previously Parochial Administrator of St. Theresa Parish, South Lake Tahoe, has left the Diocese.



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**Uli Schmitt**  
**Chancellor**

