

The following message was sent from the diocese Thursday afternoon.  
It concerns the status of Fr. Jim Kirby, who has been assigned to St. Mary/Holy Cross.  
The assignment is effective the second week of July.



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

# Statement

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**For Immediate Release**

**Date:** April 28, 2022

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## **Father Jim Kirby returns to priestly ministry**

This past February, Father Jim Kirby completed a period of administrative leave during which he was not to exercise public priestly ministry. Father Kirby had previously fulfilled a set of conditions that were imposed upon him as part of suspension from priestly ministry in July 2020, and completed a professional program addressing personal health issues. In the interim between the completion of the administrative leave and receiving his new assignment that is set to begin in July 2022, Father Kirby has been providing occasional sacramental ministry and other media-related work for the Diocese on an as needed basis, and has conducted himself with utmost integrity in service to the Catholic faithful of Southwest Iowa. Father Kirby said: "It is with great humility and, hopefully, more wisdom that I return to my priestly ministry in the service of the people of Southwest Iowa." The Diocese of Des Moines holds its clergy and ministers to the highest standards of ethical conduct.

*The Diocese of Des Moines includes 80 parishes in 23 counties in central and southwest Iowa.*