



## **April 1, 2005 - Archdiocese of Boston Extends Closing Date for Sacred Heart Parish in Lawrence**

### ***New pastor and administrator appointed to help transition process***

**(Boston, Massachusetts) April 1, 2005...**The Archdiocese of Boston today announced that it will delay the closing of Sacred Heart Parish in Lawrence. Archbishop Sean P. O'Malley granted this closing extension for organizational reasons in consultation with the Meade-Eisner Reconfiguration Review Committee in order to provide additional time to facilitate transition to the welcoming parish. As part of the Archdiocese's plan for reconfiguration announced in May 2004, Sacred Heart Parish originally was slated to close on April 3. The closing date is now scheduled for Sunday, April 17. The transition plans for the parishes of South Lawrence, well organized and underway, will continue as scheduled.

The Archdiocese also announced that Rev. Normand Martin, S.M. will conclude his assignment as Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish as scheduled on Sunday, April 3. Rev. Robert Murray has been appointed administrator of Sacred Heart Parish and will work closely with Fr. Paul O'Brien, pastor of St. Patrick Parish, the welcoming parish, as Sacred Heart prepares for the final stage of transition. Archbishop O'Malley expressed his appreciation to the Marist Fathers for their ongoing service to the Archdiocese of Boston. The Archbishop is most grateful for Fr. Martin's 4 years of leadership as Pastor of Sacred Heart and for the careful manner with which he has guided the parish through the plan for reconfiguration.

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