



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles
Office of the Bishop

May 20, 2015

Rt. Rev. Chorbishop Alfred Badawi
St. Sharbel Maronite Church
31601 Schoenherr Rd.
Warren, MI 48093

Dear Chorbishop Badawi,

The relocation of a parish is an important decision that impacts many people. I am aware that many of your parishioners have discussed the proposed purchase of the property (Garfield between Canal and 19 Mile Road) with you. While there are differing opinions on the matter I feel that for most people the future welfare of the parish community is the most important thing. I wish to thank you, as well as Mr. Paul Fayad, the Parish Council, the Stewardship Committee along with the Building Committee and many others in the parish for your efforts over the past months. You have dedicated a lot of time, talent and treasure for the well-being of St. Sharbel. I am forever grateful.

However, I continue to have concerns about the frontage of the property and have sought the guidance of the Eparchial College of Consultors. As a result, I have made the decision to cancel the purchase agreement. I don't want you to see this as a setback or a victory but more as an opportunity to come together as one community for the good of St. Sharbel.

Hopefully, this decision will help the parish to pull together again and refocus its attention to finding a proper location for a new St. Sharbel Parish in the designated area as discussed. I am sure with your leadership, the dedication of the people, and the blessings of God you will soon find a great location.

I assure you of my prayers and my support.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+A. Elias Zaidan

Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles