Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth
For Immediate Release
April 17, 2014
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Marianists Departing Nolan Catholic High School

Bishop Michael F. Olson of the Diocese of Fort Worth announced Thursday that Rev. Richard Villa, SM, will end his tenure as president of Nolan Catholic High School on June 30, 2014.

At that time, the diocese will assume management of Nolan Catholic. The Marianists' community house at Nolan also will be closed. The order has served at the school since its opening in 1961.

Father Villa has been president of Nolan Catholic since July, 2009. He is being assigned to work in another capacity in his Order. A nationwide search for Father Villa's replacement will begin immediately directed by the diocesan Catholic Schools Office.

Nolan Catholic has always been owned by the Diocese of Fort Worth but administered since 1961 by the Marianist community. Nolan Catholic began as a co-institutional school with Catholic secondary education provided for young women by the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur and for boys by the Marianists.

Bishop Olson commented, "The Diocese of Fort Worth is deeply grateful for the service of the Society of Mary at Nolan Catholic. We understand the Order's need to consolidate their resources at the schools they own as well as operate. Although the Order offered to continue the sponsorship agreement, with the support of Marianist personnel, for one additional year, it was my decision that this important transition should begin immediately. Nolan Catholic has been and will continue to grow as a source of evangelization, faith formation and academic excellence. We are committed to sustaining and enhancing its legacy."