



Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Toledo

+

VIA EMAIL AND HAND DELIVERY

6 June 2018

Mr. David Mann
President, CEO
Lucas County Land Bank
One Government Center; Suite 580
Toledo, Ohio 43604

Dear Mr. Mann,

This comes to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 6 June 2018, hand delivered to my office this afternoon, in which you have responded on behalf of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur and Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz to my proposal regarding the former Saint Anthony Church building.

Before responding to your offer, it is important to correct the factual errors in your letter. First, I did not request the City of Toledo to pay \$285,000 to the demolition company, but rather invited "Mayor Kapszukiewicz to *at least assist the diocese* in the costs associated with breaking the signed contract and to fulfill the commitment to the demolition firm." This would serve as a just support to those laborers who, for months, were relying on this scheduled work.

Second, I did not *request* that Congresswoman Kaptur pay the mobilization costs, but expressed my gratitude and *accepted* her generous offer to personally cover those expenses, an offer that was made publicly on Saturday at the press conference. I continue to be grateful to Ms. Kaptur for her willingness to fulfill that offer.

Given the intense interest in the building expressed over the last week by various civic officials and realizing the demands social justice impresses upon us to keep the covenants we have made, the Diocese of Toledo will itself provide for the entire cost it asked Mayor Kapszukiewicz to share in paying, thereby allowing the Lucas County Land Bank to accept the building and land on which the former Saint Anthony Church is located. This, then, can be considered the donation of support from the Diocese of Toledo toward the "maintenance and preservation strategy." In short, **I am offering the building and the land on which it sits as an outright gift to the Lucas County Land Bank.** This offer is available to you through 5:00 PM, Thursday, 7 June 2018.

Mr. David Mann
6 June 2018
Page 2

You have noted in your letter that the taxpayers of Toledo and others cannot bear the burden of stopping the demolition. Likewise, the faithful of the Diocese cannot be expected to continue to bear the burden of supporting a delay in action. It is their generosity these past 13 years that has provided, as best as possible, for this building. They have done so without any interest or offer of assistance from civic entities or government leaders. The delays that have already been imposed upon us, and those of a lengthened assessment period, would only add to those costs. Here, I must also note that, like the past, neither the City of Toledo, Congresswoman Kaptur, nor the Lucas County Land Bank have offered to cover these additional costs.

This new offer fulfills the desire of those civic officials and others who so passionately and publicly have stated their recent commitment to the building and its possible preservation. In your letter, you wrote: "Demolition of this building is surely a choice, not a necessity." I invite Congresswoman Kaptur, Mayor Kapszukiewicz, and yourself to make the reasonable and right choice to accept this offer, which will provide for a swift return of the Padua Center's outreach to the Nebraska-Junction neighborhood, and for the just compensation of those laborers who have depended on this scheduled work.

I look forward to your response tomorrow.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel E. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo