

Diocesan Chancery
607 N. E. Madison Avenue
Peoria, Illinois

Rt. Rev. Msgr. T. J. Jordan
St. Pius X Rectory
2501 -29th Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

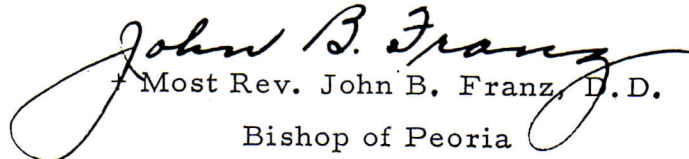
Dear Monsignor Jordan:

It seems to me to be significant that the building and dedication of your new church under the patronage of Pope St. Pius X is contemporaneous with the Second Vatican Council. The calendar of events will show that this great Council was convoked by the unforgettable Pope John XXIII and continued by Pope Paul VI. But when the historical analyst looks beyond this culmination he will see that the seeds of this great event were sown by the patron of your church, Pope St. Pius X. It was Pius X who issued those great documents of liturgical and canonical reform which were the necessary prelude to the deliberations and enactments of Vatican Council II.

Permit me, therefore, to invite you and your faithful and generous people to see in the dedication of your church a crowning event of an era that is closing and, at the same time, a self-consecration to an era that is only now beginning to dawn. In this perspective I congratulate you upon the present achievement and pray God's blessing upon the future of St. Pius X congregation.

With all good wishes and in union of prayer, I am

Faithfully yours,


+ Most Rev. John B. Franz, D.D.
Bishop of Peoria

HIS EXCELLENCY, MOST REV. JOHN B. FRANZ, D.D.
Bishop of Peoria

During the episcopate of Bishop Franz, St. Pius X Church was built. It was his guidance and reassurance during the trying days of construction which made possible this Day of Dedication.