



Office of the Provincial

OBLATE FATHERS OF ASSUMPTION PROVINCE

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Statement from the Provincial Superior of Fr. Marcin Mironiuk OMI

As the Superior of the Religious Congregation to which Fr. Marcin Mironiuk OMI belongs, I want first to apologize for this situation altogether and the hurt it has caused to so many people, especially the First Nations Peoples and to members of the Jewish community.

We acknowledge that what Fr. Mironiuk did was careless and improvised, regardless of his intent. Fr. Mironiuk accepts full responsibility for his actions. He is committed to better his own knowledge and understanding, so he can be an active part in advancing the cause of truth and reconciliation with the Indigenous Peoples, and that of interreligious relations.

The formal apology of Fr. Marcin Mironiuk is necessary, yet is only a first step. The Archbishop has placed him on indefinite leave from ministry in the Archdiocese of Edmonton. For my part, I have prescribed Fr. Mironiuk a compulsory time he will spend with First Nations history experts in order to deepen his knowledge of the pain they continue to experience and to see what remains to be done on the path of truth and reconciliation. He will also need to enter more deeply into the long-standing commitment of the Church to strengthen Catholic-Jewish relations.

Lastly, as Fr. Mironiuk has stated, he is to celebrate monthly Memorial Masses for the next year for children who died while in residential schools.

Please join with me in prayer that this unfortunate occurrence will become an occasion in which we all commit ourselves more deeply to walking together along the path of healing, reconciliation and peace among all peoples.

In Christ and Mary Immacualte,

Fr. Alfred Grzempa OMI

Fr. Alfred Grzempa OMI
Provincial Superior