

Janaury 13, 2025

Prot. No. B 003/25

## Statement Regarding the Status of the "Marian Friars Minor of Burnsville"

Recently, a small group of men referring to themselves as the "Marian Friars Minor" have taken up residence in the Diocese of Charlotte, in particular in the Burnsville area. This group, having difficulties with officials of the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky, have moved to our diocese and are functioning without the permission of the Diocese of Charlotte. Their website declares them to be a religious community that is seeking vocations as well as donations, in particular to open a retreat center in the area.

Please be advised that this group is not an officially recognized religious community neither in the Latin nor Eastern code and in no way represents the Roman Catholic Church (regardless of what they may claim). Its members are not to be offered the ability to speak publicly or serve in any of the ministry sites of the Diocese of Charlotte.

Any questions should be directed to the Chancery.

Most Reverend Michael T. Martin, OFM Conv. Bishop of Charlotte