Diocese of Grand Falls PO Box 397, 8A Church Street Grand Falls-Windsor, NL A2A 2J8



https://www.rcdioceseofgfnl.org

## STATEMENT BY BISHOP DANIELS REGARDING THE ARREST OF FATHER THOMAS OFFONG

Friday November 24<sup>th</sup>, the RCMP (Holyrood Detachment) arrested and charged Fr. Thomas Offong with Sexual Assault.

The Diocese of Grand Falls will cooperate fully with the investigation into the complaint which led to this arrest.

As with any case involving physical and/or sexual abuse, our first concern is the wellbeing of those who bring forward the painful accounts of how they were mistreated and harmed.

We are also committed to providing save environments for people to meet, worship, and celebrate their faith.

Since the investigation is ongoing, the Diocese will make no further statement until the investigation is completed. I urge everyone to reserve judgement until then.

During the course of the investigation, Fr. Thomas will be relieved of his ministerial responsibilities and will be in the care of his Religious Community.