



Statement by Msgr. Stephen J. Berg
Diocesan Administrator of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth
On Pope Benedict's XVI Resignation Announcement

In announcing his intention to retire on February 28, 2013, Pope Benedict XVI demonstrates his humility as a man and his deep devotion to the Church as a leader.

The Holy Father's announcement came as a surprise to all of us. As we study the words of his statement, we can be assured that the Holy Spirit is at work in allowing Pope Benedict to see that he no longer is physically able "to adequately fulfill the ministry entrusted to me."

I ask the people of the Diocese of Fort Worth to please pray for Pope Benedict, in thanksgiving for his unselfish ministry as our Holy Father, and that he may continue to experience God's gifts of grace and peace in his retirement.

We await God's will for the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth as we look forward to the appointment of our next bishop. We also await God's grace of wisdom as the College of Cardinals begins their conclave to elect our new pope.