

January 16, 2024



The Diocese of Columbus

197 E Gay St,
Columbus, OH 43215

•
Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus



The Diocese of Steubenville

422 Washington Street
Steubenville, OH 43952

•
Most Reverend Paul J. Bradley
Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Steubenville

Diocesan Leadership Teams Gather For Second Meeting

On January 11, 2024, leadership teams from the dioceses of Columbus and Steubenville met for the second time to discuss how both dioceses could be affected by a potential merger.

Previously, the Apostolic Nunciature asked the bishops and their leadership teams to work together to consider how different dimensions of the dioceses might be affected by such a proposal.

The second meeting focused on financial implications, personnel matters, and structures. This information has provided clarification equipping diocesan leadership to present a thorough report to Archbishop Dennis Schnurr in March 2024.

It is important to remember that no decision regarding a merger has been made. The final decision will be made by the Holy Father, Pope Francis. This process of discernment is distinct from the process of implementation should a merger occur.

Bishop Paul J. Bradley, Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Steubenville, and Bishop Earl K. Fernandes of the Diocese of Columbus continue to ask for the prayers of the clergy and laity.

+ *Earl K. Fernandes*

Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

+ *Paul J. Bradley*

Paul J. Bradley
*Apostolic Administrator of the
Diocese of Steubenville*