

# St. Michael the Archangel

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Dear Parish Family,

Last Saturday I was invited to attend the ordination to the priesthood of my former altar server when I was pastor of St. Joseph Church in Baytown. I could not help thinking how time just passes so quickly. I remember his eagerness and enthusiasm serving at all the weekday masses during school breaks and at all the masses on weekends as well as his presence and participation in so many parish activities. Observing him back then, I knew somehow, he had a vocation. Last Saturday he became the newest member to serve God's people as a priest. I was happy to be invited.

During the mass of ordination, I happen to glance at his mother sitting together with other members of the family. Not only did she look happy and proud, but also grateful for this special blessing that had come to her family. I am sure all the challenges, difficulties, hardships, and sacrifices were worth it. Now she has a son who is a priest! The look on her face that day reminded me too of my late mother. She had that look when she put the priestly alb on me at my ordination forty years ago. I was overwhelmed when I remembered that and certainly was reminiscent of the gift of vocation that God has bestowed on that young man and myself. Praise God!

This coming Saturday one of our own will receive the gift of the priesthood. Deacon Joseph White will become the newest member of the clergy. I do not have to look at his mom's face during the ordination for I know how she will shine on that day. All priests' mothers share the same look at their sons' ordination to the priesthood!

A blessed special day to you!

*Fr. Dwight*