



+ April 6-7, 2024

*To the Parishioners of
Assumption Parish, Seattle
St. Bridget Parish, Seattle
St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Seattle
Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Seattle*

Dear Friends,

I am happy to greet all of you in the name of the Risen Lord Jesus!

As archbishop, I have the important responsibility and honor of providing you with ongoing pastoral care and sacramental ministry in your parish community.

Today, I write to inform you that your parish will be entering a time of transition in pastoral leadership beginning July 1, 2024. I am pleased to announce that, after consultation with the Priest Personnel Board, I have appointed Father Bill Heric as your pastor and Father Duc Nguyen as your parochial vicar. Presently, Father Heric is the pastor of St. Bridget Parish in Seattle and Father Nguyen is the pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Snoqualmie and St. Anthony of Padua Mission in Carnation.

These men are wonderful priests who will diligently and faithfully serve you and your parish family. Be assured that they will receive all the necessary support and assistance from the Archdiocese of Seattle to ensure quality pastoral care for your parish family.

At the same time, I want to personally thank Father Tim Clark, Father Oliver Duggan and Father Marc Powell for their tremendous and wonderful service. I ask you to please keep them in your prayers as they move forward in responding to God's call in new ways. Father Clark will be the parochial vicar of Holy Rosary Parish and Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in West Seattle. Father Duggan will enter senior priest status after 24 years as pastor of Assumption Parish and over 50 years of priestly ministry! Father Powell will be the parochial vicar of St. Charles Borromeo Parish and St. Leo the Great Parish in Tacoma.

Times of transition can be challenging, especially as we prepare to say goodbye to a familiar presence and welcome new pastoral leaders. However, if embraced in an open and positive way, this can be a time of blessing for the entire parish and the Catholic Church of Western Washington. I am confident that will be the case as you welcome Father Heric and Father Nguyen to your parish family. As always, I remain,

In The Heart of Christ,

Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL
Archbishop of Seattle