

16 Oct 26

Dear Parish Family,

I'm writing this letter to inform and update you on a variety of matters.

First and foremost, Fr. Johnathan has requested a temporary leave of absence for medical reasons. This is largely due to the deteriorating condition of the Christ the King rectory and the related mold growth. His initial request is for 10 days of leave with the hope to determine a timeline for his return. Please pray for him! Bishop Persico has entrusted me with the leadership of the parishes in his absence, and has asked me to continue with the maintenance projects at Christ the King.

We are currently working to address the mold situation in the rectory and the installation of a French drain system to stop the water intrusion into the building. Mold abatement began on Wednesday, and will continue for the next couple of weeks. Because of its impact on my health and the extent of the work needed throughout the entire building, I have temporarily moved into the rectory at Holy Trinity; Fr. Zab was gracious enough to receive me! Fr. Steve Collins had already been planning time away, so he will be out of the building as well.

This situation also impacts our parish offices. With concern for the health of our staff and, again, the extensive work to be done in their work area, we are temporarily moving the offices to the parish center. **The parish office will be closed on Monday, October 19th** to accommodate the move. Pauline will be located in the Faith Formation Office, Toby will be located in the Kindergarten/First Grade Room, and JoAnn will be located in the 2nd Grade Room. Locks will be installed on those areas to secure them.

Regarding the storm water drainage project, I met with both the Pastoral and Finance Councils this past week to review the bids we received after reaching out to eight contractors. Both groups agreed to seek permission from Bishop Persico to pursue the project. Because of the approaching winter weather, we are hoping the work will begin at the beginning of November. As I write this letter, I do not have final details to share; my goal is to have that information for you all next week.

Before his decision to request a leave of absence, Fr. Johnathan had already prepared the other letter that was inserted into the bulletin this week. He wished it to be included in his absence. In it, he discusses matters regarding the secondary churches and a revised weekday Mass schedule. According to that letter the effective date for the revised weekday Mass schedule was to be January 1st. Our present situation demands that changes take effect immediately. **The bulletin for this weekend was already**

printed before the changes, so please reference this letter for the correct schedule. The new weekday schedule is as follows:

Monday - 5:30 PM* (Rotating Location - see schedule below)

Tuesday - 8:30 AM* (St. Basil)

Wednesday - 8:30 AM* (Christ the King)

Thursday - No Mass

Friday - 12:00* (St. Agnes)

*I am going to try to maintain our practice of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction on weekdays.

The Monday evening Mass locations from now, until the end of November are as follows:

- **October 19th** - St. Mary of the Assumption
- **October 26th** - St. Severin
- **November 2nd** - Holy Trinity
- **November 9th** - Immaculate Conception
- **November 16th** - St. Mary of the Assumption
- **November 23rd** - St. Severin
- **November 30th** - St. Agnes

One last note on the schedule change...We have been trying to find a way to supply another weekly opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession. The new Monday rotation will allow for that. From now on, every Monday evening Mass will be followed by Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, and Benediction. Even if you aren't able to come in time for Mass or stay very long for Adoration, please take advantage of the availability of the Sacrament; you won't regret it! As a result, we will have to suspend the potluck dinners indefinitely. During this trying time, let us lean into the opportunity to adore Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and seek the conversion of our hearts!

I was able to secure help to cover the Masses this weekend. Hopefully we will know more soon. Know of my prayers for you, and please pray for each other as well.



Fr. Cory Lee Pius

Parochial Vicar