

June 7, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

It is with joy and hope that I write you today. At the request and appointment of His Excellency, Bishop Schlert, I will soon be the new pastor of Holy Ghost parish. I count this a great blessing as I have had the opportunity to meet some of you and to see the beautiful edifice that your parents and grandparents raised up for the glory of God. I believe that with the joining of St. Stephen of Hungary parish and your own, we can once again fill this beautiful church.

I hope that our new combined parish will be one of great charity that will be in the words of Sacred Scripture a “beacon set upon a hill” which will draw souls to worship and love God more deeply. I can promise that I will put all my skills and efforts into making the parish the best I can and that the priests who assist me will do the same. I know that this time is one of much change and that change is hard to embrace regardless of the circumstances.

Yes, our liturgy will be a return to the two thousand year old liturgy of the Roman church and the echoes that sound from the choir loft will be new voices singing the psalms of David as they have been sung since the Church was born on Pentecost. Ancient as they are, they will be new to many of you and we might be confused and lost at first. Do not be afraid.

These are part of a liturgical tradition that has formed untold numbers of saints. I beg the Holy Ghost to shower our parish with abundant graces that we may one be added to that number. Deus vult. (God wills it). I look forward to meeting each of you and hope to be a part of your lives far into the future.

In Corde Jesu, per Mariam,

Fr. Gregory Pendergraft, FSSP