



From the Pastor's Desk



A Time For Everything At OLG

The book of Ecclesiastes, a wisdom book reads;

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to uproot the plant. A time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance. A time to gather stones and a time to scatter them. A time to retire from pastoring!

Yes, this weekend, I am sharing with you my intention to become a senior priest in July, 2019. I will have been pastor here since 2002. I had no idea when the Archbishop assigned me to OLG that I would be here this long. I have been very happy as your pastor and I am proud of what you have accomplished and who you are becoming as the people of God.

SOME QUESTIONS:

Why announce now, eighteen months before the date?

As I have shared, the Archdiocese is embarking on a plan to be able to have vital parishes with fewer priests in the South Seattle Deanery. We had the first meeting regarding implementation last Friday. To assist our parish in having a voice and to guide me in responding to the plan, I have a new Pastoral Council/Steering Committee to assist us with working with the Archdiocese as the plans for the South Seattle Deanery unfold over the next year. I am trusting you, like never before, to build up and strengthen our parish community.

Fr. Jack, what will you do?

Like many people in retirement, I will pursue my health issues that take more and more time. I will certainly help out in parishes on weekends. As I hope you can tell, celebrating the Eucharist is central to my ministry and to the life of parishes. I will visit long lost relatives across Canada and the US. I have always wanted to pursue the possibility of becoming a spiritual director.

I will continue to give my life to the ministry here with you during the next eighteen months and I look forward to seeing how the new Deanery plan works out.

Fr. Jack

Christian Unity Week

This Sunday, we are honored to have Margie Paynton speak to us about Christian Unity. Margie preaches regularly at a church in Seattle. She and her husband, Jim, travelled with the parish pilgrims to the Holy Land and brought with her a love for the Scriptures and the faith we share with other Christians. We all know many Christians with whom we share faith. May God draw us closer to Christian Unity.