

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

September 2, 2021

Into all of our lives come times of change and transition, growth and transformation. And so it is within the community of the Church, in the life of every parish community, and in our Holy Trinity parish family. Through all the seasons of life, the one constant for which we give thanks is the love and faithfulness of our gracious God who promised to always be with us. And so I write to you today to let you know of a change and transition in Fr. Dennis Sevilla's priestly ministry. Beginning next weekend, Fr. Dennis will primarily be serving at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish. He will still be available to serve at Holy Trinity when we need his help and for this we are truly grateful. His more full-time presence at Star of the Sea will bless that community, that he has also been serving, with additional and needed priestly ministry.

Fr. Dennis has been a priest for over 52 years having served in many of the parishes of our local deanery. He has also been a cherished member and priest of our faith community for over twenty years. We were just beginning parish ministry to the Latino community in our area and we had need of a priest who spoke Spanish who could celebrate Mass and the sacraments. Fr. Jack asked Fr. Dennis if he spoke Spanish, and if he did would he be willing to help out for four to six months to get this ministry going at Holy Trinity. Fr. Dennis graciously agreed and, of course, those few months turned into many years of ministering to and caring for that community with selfless dedication and commitment! He extended his ministry and service by presiding at our English Masses and celebrating the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage and funerals. He also served as chaplain in the CHI Franciscan Hospital system to include St. Anthony's in Gig Harbor and Harrison Hospital (now St. Michael Hospital). To that ministry he brought the gifts of his passion, presence, listening and compassionate heart, and healing ministry to the sick and dying.

In commemoration of his 50th anniversary of priestly ordination, Fr. Dennis gifted our parish with a beautiful gold chalice, communion bowls and matching communion cups which we have not been able to use during this time of the pandemic, but look forward to being able to use them soon. These sacred vessels are a sign of his love and regard, and part of his legacy to our parish community with which he has shared so much of his life and priestly ministry.

*Together let us thank God for Fr. Dennis, for all the good he has done, and all that he has meant, and will continue to mean for us. We ask that God bless him with the gifts that he most needs personally and as he continues to serve our Lord. **WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT!***

In Christ's Peace,

Verónica Kelley, (Pastoral Coordinator)