

Staff Update - Fr. Matthew Litak's tenure with us concludes June 30

Letter from Fr. Peter, Pastor

Dear Friends,

"As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people.' At once they left their nets and followed Him" (Matthew 4:18-20).

This scripture serves as a vivid reminder of our calling -- to follow Jesus and dedicate ourselves to the growth of God's kingdom. Today, I write to you with a change that aligns with this very purpose.

It is with a mix of sadness and gratitude that I inform you about the conclusion of Fr. Matthew Litak's tenure with us on June 30, 2024. Fr. Matthew's influence on Saint Clement through his work in spiritual direction, hospital visits, preaching, accompaniment and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) has been profound. His unwavering commitment and dedication have been instrumental in building a strong RCIA team, enabling us to offer this powerful discernment tool year-round.

Every priest is called to serve the needs of the local church, providing pastoral care, and serving those in need. In line with this calling, Fr. Matthew has discerned his path towards becoming a pastor. As he prepares for this new chapter of his ministry, we pray for his transition and trust that the next four months with us will be most fruitful to him. His reliable presence and dedication will be dearly missed by me.

Recognizing the pastoral needs before us, we appreciate the need for another associate pastor. I am glad to inform you that we have already started a process of discernment with Nicole and Fr. Brett and together with our leadership team in early March we will begin this process of discernment with possible candidates for this role.

As we embark on this new phase, let us join in prayer for Fr. Matthew during his transition, and for Saint Clement, as we pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us towards another minister who will collaboratively serve the pastoral needs of our community.

Thank you for your continued dedication and service. Together, let's continue our purpose to grow the kingdom of God.

In Christ,

Fr. Peter Wojcik, *Pastor*