



+ April 6-7, 2024

*To the Parishioners of
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seattle
St. Bernadette Parish, Seattle
St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Burien*

Dear Friends,

I am happy to greet all of you in the name of the Risen Lord Jesus!

As archbishop, I have the important responsibility and honor of providing you with ongoing pastoral care and sacramental ministry in your parish community.

Today, I write to inform you that your parish will be entering a time of transition in pastoral leadership beginning July 1, 2024. I am pleased to announce that, after consultation with the Priest Personnel Board, I have appointed Father Khanh Nguyen as your new pastor and Father Dwight Lewis and Father Paul Thanh Duc Vu, SDD, as your parochial vicars. Father Khanh is currently the pastor of St. Matthew Parish in Seattle. Presently, Father Dwight Lewis is the parochial vicar at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Tacoma and Father Paul Vu, SDD, is the parochial vicar of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Seattle.

These men are wonderful priests who will diligently and faithfully serve you and your parish family. Be assured that they will receive all the necessary support and assistance from the Archdiocese of Seattle to ensure quality pastoral care for your parish family.

At the same time, I want to personally thank Father Dick Hayatsu, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Burien, and Father John Ludvik, pastor of St. Bernadette Parish in Seattle, for their 25 years and five years of service, respectively. I ask you to please keep them in your prayers as they take up senior priest status. Father Ludvik will remain in residence at St. Francis of Assisi Parish and provide sacramental support on occasion to the parish family. I would also like to thank Father Joseph Vu, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Seattle, for his five years of service. Please keep Father Vu in your prayers as he takes on a new assignment with his religious order, Domus Dei Clerical Society of Apostolic Life.

Times of transition can be challenging, especially as we prepare to say goodbye to a familiar presence and welcome new pastoral leaders. However, if embraced in an open and positive way, this can be a time of blessing for the entire parish and the Catholic Church of Western Washington. I am confident that will be the case as you welcome Father Khanh Nguyen, Father Dwight Lewis and Father Paul Vu, SDD, to your parish family. As always, I remain,

In The Heart of Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Paul D. Etienne'.

Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL
Archbishop of Seattle