

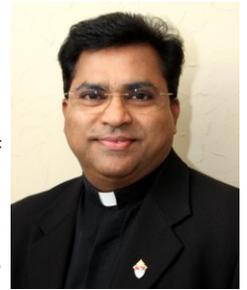
*From Your Pastor's Desk,*

### Regarding Changes...



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Changes are difficult for some people. But the reality of life is that changes are always part of our life, whether we like it or not, and these changes make us who we are today. Suppose we did not make any changes in our lives, where we would have been? Still in the Stone Age? Still in our mother's lap as a kid? Absolutely we have no clue. Certainly, some changes are difficult for some people. Some of us take changes well, and some of us do not.



I have been here as the Pastor of St. Marguerite for the past 11 months. Whenever a new pastor comes to a parish, there is always some concerns about the changes that may be possibly brought about. It is quite natural in the pastoral ministry. For the first 6 months, I didn't do anything much; then I began to make some small changes that were overdue for the good of the church and the community. I have received lots of positive feedback and comments from the parishioners because they knew that those changes were overdue. I want to thank you all for your support and encouragement in my ministry here as your Pastor.

Now I am sharing with you some of the changes of our Mass schedule discussed and decided in the Parish Council and Clergy Meeting after sufficient study of the situations in the neighboring parishes.

St. John Neumann has 2,000 families with 3 Sunday English Masses  
St. Lawrence has 4,000 families with 4 Sunday English Masses  
St. Patrick has 1,300 families with 2 Sunday English Masses  
St. Stephen has 500 families with 2 Sunday English Masses  
St. Marguerite has 500 families with 4 Sunday English Masses.

As you see here, St. Marguerite is one of the smallest parishes with the highest number of Masses. You may have also noticed 7:30 am and 6:00 pm Masses participation is very low, and even the 9:00 am and 11:30 am are not full either. So there is a need to make some changes in our schedule.

The following are the proposed changes of the Mass schedule for our church which is going to be effective from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018:

#### **Sunday English Mass Schedule**

8:30 am  
11:00 am  
5:30 pm

#### **Weekday Mass Schedule**

Monday 8:30 am  
Tuesday 8:30 am  
Wednesday 5:30-6:30 pm Adoration and Benediction in the Sanctuary, 6:30 pm Holy Mass  
Thursday 8:30 am  
Friday 8:30 am  
Saturday 8:30 am, Vigil Mass 5:30 pm

#### **Some of the advantages of the new schedule:**

- Those working 5 days a week get an opportunity for a weekday Mass, adoration and benediction, on Wednesday evenings.
- Religious education and youth program get a little more time for their classes and activities.
- Parents will have opportunity for different classes, Mass, and spiritual activities on Wednesday evenings.

I want to thank you all once again for your support, encouragement, and understanding. We are together here as a family to help each other and create a Second Home and live our faith journey. If you have any questions, please contact me at anytime, by email or phone.

Lovingly, Your Pastor,

Fr. Tomy Puliyampattayil Joseph, MSFS