

## Pastor's Corner

I would like to thank all of the parishioners who have made Fr. Mark and myself feel so welcomed at Precious Blood Parish.

So many of you have kindly dropped off dinners for us. I would like to thank Alicia Byram, Sheila Bertrand, Catherine Murphy, Erin Muir, Joan Depue, Deb Muir, Catherine Murphy, and Pat and Bill Gravely. If I have inadvertently not mentioned someone, please forgive me.

I would also like to thank Ted White for donating a refrigerator for our sacristy. Richard and Evelyn Kitts were kind enough to donate a refrigerator at the same time that we are able to put to good use now that we have two priests in the rectory. Thank you all for your graciousness.

Bishop Loverde will come next Sunday, August 7, to the 11:30 AM Mass to install me as pastor. I am grateful that through him the Diocese of Arlington has been able to send two priests to our parish. I can see that there was a lot of work for just Fr. Anselme.

In Bishop Loverde's letter assigning me here, he encouraged me to reflect on two canons of our Church Canon Law which have to do with pastors. I would like to share one of them with you this week; please pray that I can live up to the responsibilities asked of me:

Can. 528 §1. A pastor is obliged to make provision so that the word of God is proclaimed in its entirety to those living in the parish; for this reason, he is to take care that the lay members of the Christian faithful are instructed in the truths of the faith, especially by giving a homily on Sundays and holy days of obligation and by offering catechetical instruction. He is to foster works through which the spirit of the gospel is promoted, even in what pertains to social justice. He is to have particular care for the Catholic education of children and youth. He is to make every effort, even with the collaboration of the Christian faithful, so that the message of the gospel comes also to those who have ceased the practice of their religion or do not profess the true faith.

§2. The pastor is to see to it that the Most Holy Eucharist is the center of the parish assembly of the faithful. He is to work so that the Christian faithful are nourished through the devout celebration of the sacraments and, in a special way, that they frequently approach the sacraments of the Most Holy Eucharist and penance. He is also to endeavor that they are led to practice prayer even as families and take part consciously and actively in the sacred liturgy which, under the authority of the diocesan bishop, the pastor must direct in his own parish and is bound to watch over so that no abuses creep in.

God bless,

Fr. Kevin