

A Note from Fr. Keith, Our Pastor

This weekend, we welcome Fr. Thomas Cargo to our parish as the future administrator. Fr. Tom and I will minister together in this transitional period before my deployment begins at the end of October. Recently retired, Fr. Tom is an experienced pastor with a witty sense of humor, great conversationalist, and an interest in liturgy which will complement our Eucharistic Revival efforts.

I am personally grateful to Fr. Tom for generously stepping out of his retirement to serve as the administrator during my deployment. This must have come as a surprise to Fr. Tom, even though the Vicar for Clergy knew about my deployment when recommending me to the Bishop as the next pastor. His generosity is our blessing!

Canonically, a Parochial Administrator has all the same responsibilities and rights of a pastor. In practice, it is the professional courtesy between priests for an administrator to maintain a parish in the absence of the pastor. Please extend a welcome to Fr. Tom as he joins our parish. He is committed to continuing our emphasis on the Eucharistic Revival with a deep personal love for the liturgy and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Fr. Tom may be reached by email at frtomcargo@stjamesge.org and by phone at x213.

Regarding the aforementioned Eucharistic Revival, our efforts continue as we place Jesus at the center of our lives as individuals, families, and a parish. I have been preaching about the Eucharistic Revival each weekend as a way to introduce this vision to the parish. The three year process seeks to revive belief in the True Presence, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and reverence in celebrating Mass.

Our first major revival will be in two weeks when we restore the Tabernacle to the center of the sanctuary on Saturday, September 24th. As with human nature, some will support this revival, others will oppose it, and most will have no strong feelings either way. Therefore, I encourage you to receive these revivals not as a change but a ***restoration which places Jesus at the center of our parish.***

In order to prepare ourselves for this exciting Eucharistic Revival, please remember to genuflect toward the Tabernacle when entering/exiting your pew. We are invited to respectfully refrain from unnecessary conversation in the presence of the Tabernacle. After all, this is why we have such a nice, large Narthex. Respectful silence inside the Church both before and after Mass allows those who need to pray an environment more conducive to sacred reflection. As always, thank you for your support, patience, and understanding.

Finally, please remember to pray for the repose of the souls of all those who tragically passed twenty-one years ago on September 11, 2001. Our nation continues to mourn such a tragic day of terrorism. Our solemn remembrance honors their sacrifice.