

Dear friends,

A very blessed and happy Palm Sunday!

As you are all aware, we are facing a challenging time in our Parish of The Annunciation. Last weekend, I read out the statement from Bishop Patrick about Fr. Liam, who has stepped down from active ministry for the time being. I want to thank Fr. Liam for his time and ministry among us and you for your prayerful good wishes and care for Fr. Liam. We keep receiving cards for Fr. Liam, which we will consolidate and pass on to him. Please keep Fr. Liam in your prayers.

When God closes one door, he always opens another. Last month, I shared the good news about our new priest, Fr. Evarist. The latest update is that all his paperwork has been submitted, and we are just waiting for his visa to be granted. Please continue to pray for a smooth process and a safe arrival for Fr. Evarist. I have been blessed with several offers of support from my brother priests. Their kindness helps ensure that you all can continue to have Masses and receive the Sacraments. All of them are either retired or have full-time responsibilities, but they are using their extra time to support us. I ask that we all give a very warm welcome and support to each of our visiting priests.

You will see that there are some changes coming into play to help us adapt to the circumstances. I would like to gently remind everyone that our Masses are on Saturday evening at 04:30 PM and 06:30 PM, and on Sunday morning at 09:00 AM and 11:00 AM. Mass will begin at the designated time. The reader who is reading at Mass will now read the parish announcements five minutes before Mass begins. They will announce which priest will be saying the Mass, if there is to be a second collection, a children's liturgy, and also welcome any visitors. My team and I will do our best to minimize the changes and will keep you informed of any updates through different channels, including the parish newsletter, emails, the parish website, and parish notices. We are grateful for your understanding and kindness during this time.

I would like to repeat what I shared in my announcement in February, "My friends, the road ahead will be bumpy, and there will be highs and lows. United we stand, divided we fall." I believe the power of the Holy Spirit is working in and through us. As your Parish Priest, your Pastoral Father, you are my flock, and I am called to lead this parish to a brighter future. I need you to come with me. Please keep the future of our parish in your prayers and pray for the success of our journey of faith.

God Bless.

Fr John