



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! Last Sunday, I had the joy of baptizing two new parishioners—Samuel Robert and Thomas Brian. They are baptism 26 and 27 for our parish this year which is ahead of where we were this time last year! Praise God and Thanks to you parents for saying “Yes” to the Gift of Life! What is so amazing about Samuel and Brian – both of two different families -- is that they had the same birthday! What’s more, it’s the same day as mine! Wow! What are the chances of that?! For that reason, I had to take a pic of that joyous day! Congrats to Samuel and Brian and their families!

Last week in Flocknote, I shared another joyful event that I experienced. On Monday, June 26th, I received a letter from Archbishop Perez sharing with me that Pope Francis has appointed me and 9 other priests of our Archdiocese to be Missionaries of Mercy. While I don’t have a picture of my reaction to the moment of opening that letter, I do want to share with you a snapshot of what this new role is.

From Dec. 2015 – Nov. 2016, the Church celebrated a Year of Mercy. As part of that year, Pope Francis designated some priests throughout the world to be special agents of God’s abundant mercy. That is to say, priests who are sent out with a ***three-fold mission and mandate***: 1) to preach about the Lord’s merciful love; 2) to make that mercy as available as possible to as many as possible through the Sacrament of Confession; 3) to become more and more an icon of the Father’s merciful love and the Church maternal compassionate solicitude.

After that year, he extended the practice of commissioning Missionaries of Mercy. Today, there are about 1,000 throughout the world. While all Catholic priests have the privilege and responsibility of preaching God’s mercy, reconciling sinners to God in the Sacrament and becoming merciful like God the Father, Pope Francis appointed Missionaries of Mercy to focus on carrying out these activities in an exemplary way as a sign of the Church’s solicitude. In addition, he gave them the blanket authority to hear confessions anywhere in the world and the faculties to absolve serious ecclesiastical crimes and sins that normally only the Pope and the Holy See are able to absolve.

What does this mean for me? Well, the bar has been set higher for me: to be an authentic SIGN of God’s great Mercy. I hope in the coming days to speak and teach more about Mercy and be available to more people, particularly those who do not know God’s Mercy. I will be officially commissioned in a ceremony at the Cathedral on Sunday, September 24, the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy.

Pray for me as I embrace this new role.

Peace, Fr. Rogers



7 AM YOUTH RETREAT

WHAT: Youth Retreat

WHO: All Rising High School Freshman through Rising College Freshman

WHERE: SS. Peter & Paul Parish, 1325 Boot Road, West Chester, PA

WHEN: Tuesday, August 1-Thursday, August 3, 2023

TIME: 10:00AM-2:00PM

FREE 3-Day Youth Retreat for High School Teens sponsored by SS. Peter & Paul Parish. This powerful event includes Praise & Worship, Mass, Adoration, Great Speakers, Food, Games & more! For more information and to register visit <https://sspeterandpaulrc.org> or email Elizabeth Wall at ewall@sspeterandpaulrc.org

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Our next Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023. It will be held in the St. Patrick Religious Education Center (old school) in the St. Joseph Room on the first floor from 12:00PM-5:00PM. Just like our pantries need constant restocking, so does the blood supply.

Sign up to donate by going to RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: `stpatrickks` to schedule your appointment. Sign up is also available on our website: www.stpatrickkennettsquare.org

Thank you so much for your continued support to the Red Cross.