

LETTER OF INTRODUCTION FROM OUR NEXT PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is an honor for me to be appointed as your next pastor. It is a special privilege to be following Fr. Joseph Vamos. Fr. Vamos has been your pastor ever since I was ordained a priest 21 years ago! Please allow me to introduce myself to you.

I was born on June 10, 1961 in East Chicago to Robert and Margaret Muha. I have four brothers (all of whom live in South Lake County). We belonged to St. Stanislaus Parish and lived directly across the street from the convent. My desire to become a priest took root there and further developed at St. John the Evangelist Parish in St. John when my family moved there in 1971. My parents were always active in the parish, in Scouting, and in the Knights of Columbus. I loved to serve Mass and was especially encouraged in my vocation by Fr. Joseph Till and the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration. I attended Lake Central High School for one year and then went to St. Lawrence High School Seminary in Wisconsin.

After high school I entered the order of Capuchin Franciscans and remained with them for three years. I then completed my college education at St. Meinrad Seminary in southern Indiana as a candidate for the Diocese of Gary. After college I went to Rome to complete my studies for the priesthood. I was ordained a deacon in Rome at the Basilica of St. Peter in Vatican City. On September 10, 1988 I was ordained a priest by Bishop Norbert Gaughan. Since my ordination I have served as an assistant at St. Paul in Valparaiso, St. Michael in Schererville, Our Lady of Grace in Highland, and St. John Bosco in Hammond. On July 1, 1998 I became pastor of St. Edward in Lowell where I have served for 11 years.

My hobbies include art, architecture, and music. I have served on the Diocesan Liturgical Commission and as a Master of Ceremonies for the Bishop. I have been involved in the complete renovation of three churches in the Diocese: St. Thomas Aquinas in Knox, St. John Bosco in Hammond, and St. Edward in Lowell. The Sacred Liturgy is the heart of my priestly vocation and my number one priority as a pastor. I look forward to celebrating Holy Mass with such a large and vibrant community as Our Lady of Consolation Parish.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Peter John Muha