



March 22, 2018

Dear Parishioner,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to serve you as your pastor over these past several years. We have walked together in the joy of baptism and in the sorrow of losing a loved one. There have been those times when we have shared those moments of witnessing your sons and daughters entering into the covenant of marriage and seeing the life-cycle continue into the next generation. I am deeply grateful for celebrating your children's First Eucharist and to see the awe on their faces when they took the Bread of Life and drank the cup of His Blood. Witnessing the healing power of the Lord in your life through the Sacrament of Reconciliation stirred within me the awareness of how much the Lord God loves you. There are those profound memories of celebrating the Anointing of the Sick and especially the Viaticum with your loved ones that I will cherish forever. I will deeply remember in my heart times we gathered around the Table of the Lord to offer the sacrifice of the Mass.

There are countless other memories we have shared together for which I am most appreciative. Through these years of ministering to you my prayer has always been that you would make a personal commitment to Jesus Christ. I know that once you have done so the Lord will open to you the richness of His love and mercy.

The time has come to say good bye as I move into retirement from active ministry. I will be moving to the West Bend area where there is a shortage of priest help-outs so I guess retirement doesn't mean retirement. Thank you for this time to minister to you as your pastor. I end with a prayer that I say each day for you. "Father, pour into the hearts of your parishioners the Holy Spirit that the Spirit may draw us closer to the Lord Jesus and thus find our way to one another and to you Father. Amen.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Dennis A. Dirx
Pastor