

Pastorate 12:
Our Lady of the Assumption, St. Jude, St. Stephen, and St. Thomas

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ of Pastorate 12,

Greetings from your new parochial administrator! While I will not officially begin my new role until July 1, 2023, I wanted to take this opportunity to communicate some very important information about the Mass and Confession schedule for our entire pastorate which will begin on July 1st.

You will notice that there are some changes to the Mass schedule familiar to you. The decision to make these changes was to achieve a greater variety of Mass times throughout the pastorate (eliminating duplicate Mass times), and to achieve fuller attendance at Masses. **These changes are not made lightly**, and they have been discussed with your outgoing pastors, the new team of priests for the pastorate, current staff members, members of the Transition Team, and even Bishop Hying.

While this new **Mass and Confession schedule will be in effect beginning July 1**, it will be reevaluated as we continue with our *Into the Deep Strategic Plan*. As parishes are merged sometime in the next year, it will be important to recall some of the goals of the plan concerning our liturgies:

- 1. To reclaim the Sabbath and Eucharist as the center of parish life;**
- 2. To have more than 50% of our liturgies at greater than 50% capacity;**
- 3. To have better coordination between parishes with Mass times, Confession times, etc.; and**
- 4. To have no more than 3 weekend Masses per priest**

The new weekend Mass Schedule has eight Masses and this allows it to be covered on the occasion there are only two priests available on a weekend. Thus, while this initial schedule is meant to serve us as we begin our pastorate, it will be evaluated and possibly changed down the road to ensure we are meeting the goals of *Into the Deep*.

Here is the new Mass and Confession schedule with times and locations:

Saturday Vigil Mass:

Time	Location
4:00 pm	St. Thomas, Beloit
5:00 pm	Our Lady of the Assumption, Beloit

Sunday Mass:

Time	Location
8:00 am	Our Lady of the Assumption, Beloit
9:00 am	St. Stephen, Clinton
9:30 am	St. Jude, Beloit
10:30 am	Our Lady of the Assumption
11:00 am SPANISH	St. Jude, Beloit
5:00 pm	St. Thomas, Beloit

Daily Masses:

Day	Time	Location
Monday	12:00 pm	St. Thomas, Beloit
Tuesday	8:15 am	St. Jude, Beloit
	5:00 pm	Our Lady of the Assumption, Beloit

Wednesday	8:00 am	St. Stephen, Clinton
	8:15 am	Our Lady of the Assumption, Beloit
Thursday	8:15 am	Our Lady of the Assumption (School Mass)
	12:00 pm	St. Thomas, Beloit
Friday	8:15 am	Our Lady of the Assumption
	12:00 pm	St. Thomas, Beloit

There are two Saturday Masses that have been eliminated from the current schedule:

- 5 p.m. at St. Stephen's that averages 50 people in attendance, which is 13% capacity
- 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Jude's that averages 68 people in attendance, which is 17% capacity.

There are two Sunday Masses where the Mass times are significantly changed:

- 11 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas is being moved to 5:00 p.m. This Mass is averaging 101 people in attendance which is 38% capacity.
- 8:45 a.m. Mass at St. Jude is being moved to 9:30 a.m. This Mass averages 79 people in attendance which is 19% capacity.

The only Mass in the Pastorate currently above 50% capacity is the 11 a.m. Spanish Mass at St. Jude, that averages 225 people in attendance which is 56% capacity.

(These statistics are from the Diocesan Data Hub from the October Count 2022.)

Here is the Confession Schedule:

Saturdays:

- 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. with Adoration and Benediction at St. Jude, Beloit
- 3:30 p.m. at St. Thomas, Beloit
- 4:30 p.m. at Our Lady of the Assumption, Beloit

Sundays:

- 8:30 a.m. at St. Stephen, Clinton

Confessions in Spanish:

- First Fridays at 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with Adoration and Benediction at St. Jude

I realize that the changes brought about by the *Into the Deep Strategic Plan* affect all of us and this transition brings a feeling of loss of identity, attachments, and what is familiar. I will do my best to offer care and concern for all; and all of us can share care and concern for one another in this time. By remaining positive and working together we can create a future for our Pastorate of a vibrant faith community committed to our mission of growing in our love for Jesus and sharing Jesus with others.

A special word of thanks to our outgoing pastors for all they have done and are doing and for letting me share this news with you. I look forward to meeting you, serving you, and working with you next month, and I pray that all of you will continue to be filled with life and love of the Most Holy Trinity.

In Christ,

Rev. Bart D. Timmerman