



July 17, 2020

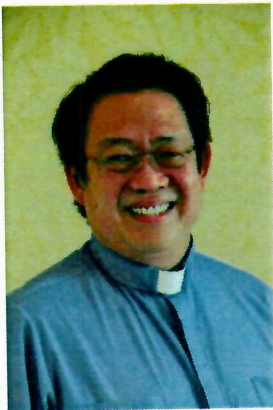
What will separate us from the love of Christ?
Romans 8:35

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Grace and Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. What will separate us from the love of Christ? These are the words of Scripture from St. Paul to the Romans. St. Paul tells us nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. Who brings us to know Christ? We do.

Your pastor, Father Matthew Mello, is leaving to serve as pastor of Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church in Port Orange. I am grateful to Father Matthew for bringing you to Christ and guiding you to understand your baptismal call so that you are also able to bring those whom you encounter to know Jesus.

Father Kenny Aquino is appointed pastor of Divine Mercy Parish on August 1 to guide you in your Catholic faith. He comes to you from Our Lady of the Lakes in Deltona where he has served since 2011. Let me introduce you to him briefly:



Father Kenny Aquino was born and raised in the Philippines. His Catholic faith was heavily influenced by missionary priests who served there, everyone from the Spanish priests in his parish to the Irish Jesuit who mentored his spirituality. He was ordained on September 8, 1990 in the Archdiocese of Nueva Caceres.

Father Aquino says it was God's providence that led him initially to the Diocese of Orlando in 1998 on a visit through the local office of the Propagation of the Faith. He returned to the diocese in 2004, serving first at St. Joseph Parish in Winter Haven, Holy Spirit in Lake Wales and then Holy Family in Orlando. He was incardinated into the Diocese of Orlando in 2009.

Father Aquino is involved with the Ministry to the Filipinos participating in important events to the Filipino community and has performed concerts with other Filipino priests. He says, "There have been miracles, little and big, extraordinary and ordinary moments that have mixed together and I know everything that has happened, has happened in the right way. I am so grateful that I see God's hand in my life. I am God's instrument."

Please welcome Father Aquino with grace and faith. I pray with you during this time of transition. May we be through, with and of God, that nothing can separate us from Him.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Most Reverend John Noonan
Bishop of Orlando

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