



# INTO THE DEEP

**PASTORATE 24**

EDGERTON ■ EVANSVILLE ■ FOOTVILLE ■ OREGON ■ STOUGHTON

June 4, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings from your new parochial administrator/pastor! 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 the entire pastorate, which will begin on July 1st.

You will notice that there are some significant changes to the Mass schedule familiar to you. The decision to make these more significant changes was required by the fact that we will have fewer priests than are currently serving the churches of the pastorate, and the Mass times at the various churches were too similar. Our 5 church sites need to be seen as one parish or pastorate when viewing the spacing of Mass times. These changes are not made lightly, and they have been discussed with your outgoing pastor, the new team of priests for the pastorate, and even Bishop Hying.

This new Mass and Confession schedule will be in effect beginning July 1, along with all 30 pastorate's new schedules in the Diocese of Madison. As parishes are merged sometime 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 our liturgies at greater than 50% capacity; (3) to have better coordination between parishes with Mass times, Confession times, etc.; (4) to have no more than 3 weekend Masses per priest, including weddings and funerals; and, by extension, (5) to allow two priests to be able to cover all 7 weekend Masses in the event one priest suddenly takes ill or is on vacation.

A special word of thanks to your current pastor for letting me share this news with you. I look forward to 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,

Fr. Tom Kelley

***PS: Here is the new Mass and Confession schedule***, with times and locations—  
printed on the back of this letter.