

## From the Desk of Fr. Jerry

November 17, 2024

Dear Friends,

Our congratulations to Archbishop Designate Jeffrey Grob on being named Archbishop of Milwaukee. For more than 30 years the Archdiocese of Chicago has been the beneficiary of Archbishop Grob's compassion, scholarship and commitment to service. Pope Francis has recognized his extraordinary gifts and is returning him to his native state of Wisconsin as leader of the Milwaukee Archdiocese. We are honored to be able to celebrate the Eucharist with him this weekend and to offer him our prayers and well wishes.

Shortly after the Eucharistic Revival that took place in August in Indianapolis, I met with representatives of St. Patrick who participated in that event. The discussion focused on the follow-up to the Congress at the local level. When it was mentioned that Bishop Grob had participated in the entire event, we proposed to invite Bishop Grob. We invited him to share his reflections and to give encouragement to our efforts to revitalize participation in the Sunday Eucharist here at St. Patrick's. I contacted the Bishop's Office and before I knew it we had a date and time. Who knew we would have more than one reason to celebrate today.

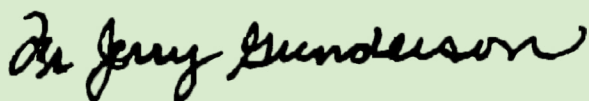
As a priest new to the Vicariate, I want to express my deep appreciation for his leadership of the Lake County part of the archdiocese. I have experienced his genuine warmth and support of pastors and priests. Each year the vicar meets with the Diocesan Priest's Placement Board of which I have been a member for the past three years. Bishop Grob was always proactive in preparing for these meetings. His input greatly aided the effectiveness of the board.

We will miss him, but Milwaukee is not too far. I am sure his mother who lives in Wisconsin will be happy to have him closer to home.

Colder weather is here and our gathering space and other facilities are being filled with coats, food, and monetary donations for those in need. When we hear the cries of the poor, we reveal the love of God who hears the cry of the poor! Thank you for your generosity.

Mass on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28th at 10 AM will be in the new church. While every Mass offers thanksgiving to God, "because it is right and just," Thanksgiving Day is a uniquely American day of thanks. In this time of transition let us pray that we will continue to seek the common good and be an instrument of God's peace in the world.

In Christ,



Fr. Jerry Gunderson