

**St. Edward, St. George, St. Paul & St. Peter Parishes
Seattle, Washington**

April 21, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Forty days of darkness and now we can proclaim: **Christ is risen! Alleluia, Alleluia!**

The Resurrection is the foundation and cornerstone of our faith. Christ by His death and Resurrection has conquered sin so we may live. May the Resurrection lead us to be the best version of ourselves; committed to live out our Baptismal covenant. For when we do our best to live the new life of the resurrection we do become the best version of ourselves.

Each year we set aside the Triduum – Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday – to commemorate God's love for all of us in every generation. We are invited to enter more fully into the life of grace that has been given to us through our Baptism. As Saint Paul reminds us, “We were indeed buried with Him through Baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with Him through a death like His, we shall also be united with Him in the resurrection” (Romans 6:4-5).

It is important that the world is able to see the face of Jesus at this moment in time. For it is the Lord, risen from the dead, who desires to be present to this broken and bruised world through you. Your Christian life gives witness that Christ is alive and at work in the world today. By living the Gospel values that the Lord teaches and by allowing His love to permeate all your actions, you and I can join our voices with those of His first disciples by acclaiming, “The Lord is risen! He is truly risen!”

Easter is that time of the year when we see changes all around us – flowers blooming, trees budding, new life and new transitions. ***I am fairly certain that you are all aware of what is happening regarding my position as Pastor in our cluster at the end of this fiscal year, but I am writing this to insure that each and every one of you has the same information. After much prayer, discernment, and discussion with my family, I have made the difficult decision to make a transition in my ministry this coming June 30.***

We all go through different stages in our lives and we all face times of great transitions: graduating from school, starting a career, getting married, having children, retirement, death in the family, etc. I have come to the point in my life where I need to slow my pace in active ministry after 42 years in the Priesthood and 19 years in our cluster. Therefore, effective this July 1st, I will become designated as a “Senior Priest” for the Archdiocese. What does that mean? The easiest way to explain this is to say that I will become a Sacramental Priest with no administrative duties. That means that the Archdiocese may give me a specific assignment

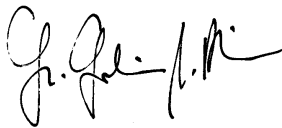
to a parish or a cluster and that I will help in celebrating the sacraments in that parish or cluster. I will not have any responsibility for the administration of that parish or cluster.

Who will take my place as pastor? I don't know yet. We should find out in the next month or so. Will I be assigned to stay in our cluster? NO, that would not be fair to the new pastor. Where will I be assigned? I don't know yet. I will take a little break for health reasons before I may take a new placement. Will the cluster stay the same? YES, at least for the next year or so, the Archbishop has made the decision that there would be no changes regarding the partnering in our cluster but there may be a reduction of the number of priests assigned here.

I wanted each and every one of you to know how much I appreciate and care for you. Thank you for your love and commitment to your respective parishes. I have and I will continue to hold each of you in my heart and in my prayers. I hope you will always remember me in your prayers.

May this Easter season be one of great blessing and grace for all of us as we labor in Christ's vineyard and in this transition. May the Peace of the Lord reign in your hearts, in your families, and in your homes.

Sincerely yours in the Risen Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fr. Felino S. Paulino'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Fr. Felino S. Paulino
Pastor