

September 21, 2017

Dear Parishioners of Holy Spirit Parish,

I write to you today to tell you of a change in our weekday Mass schedule. As you know, both Father Jerry and I celebrate two weekday Masses each day of the week. Since I am your fulltime pastor and Father Jerry, while retired, has been in-residence fulltime this has been accomplished with relative ease.

In the coming months only one of us will be available to celebrate daily Mass. We both have retreats, time away, and medical treatments coming up which will prevent us from being available for daily Mass.

I will be undergoing a procedure on my heart in early October to address a condition which has worsened since my cochlear implant surgery in mid-August. While I will be in the hospital for only one day, I will be limited in my activities for two weeks. I also will be away for my annual retreat in mid-October.

Father Jerry will be away on retreat in late October and then will have eye surgery in early November. He will then be away for recuperation for at least six weeks. He will also be away from the parish extensively during the first part of 2018 and then plans to reduce his availability to the parish while in residence here.

Because of our lack of availability during these coming months, we will be changing the weekday Mass schedule so that there will be only one Mass celebrated each day. Effective October 2nd, our weekday Mass schedule will be Monday – Wednesday, 6:30 a.m., Thursday – Saturday 8:00 a.m. We will continue to have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday. Exposition will be at 9:00 a.m. and Benediction and Reposition at Noon. As this is a permanent change we will not have Communion Services in place of the Mass. The weekend Mass schedule will remain the same.

We understand that any change in Mass availability and schedule is difficult. We hope that you will understand the need for this change.

I ask for your prayers for both Father Jerry and I during the coming weeks. Please pray for an increase in Priestly vocations.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Robert T. Evans

Pastor