

Dear New Friends at St. Paul,

I am arriving shortly by way of St Catherine of Alexandria in Oak Lawn to join your Parish ministry team as an associate pastor. I was ordained five years ago and this will be my second assignment. I grew up in Northfield, IL and went to St. Philip the Apostle school. My family owned a long-time restaurant staple in Northfield called the Willow Inn Club, where I worked as a busboy for many years. For high school I attended Loyola Academy. I earned my automotive certification and began to work as a mechanic.

I felt God calling me to continue learning and gaining life experience and I got outside my comfort zone and joined AmeriCorps national service. Our team did service projects across the country. I did my second year of service stationed in Montpelier, Vermont, working at an organization called the Youth Services Bureau. It was there that I began to explore more deeply a relationship with God and the choice of growing deeper into a life of faith. I met a great priest out there who sat down with me and fielded a bevy of tough questions. Some of the roadblocks that inhibited a more tender relationship with God began to melt away and in order to work on me a bit, I believe, he called me to sign up for a slot in perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. That is where all the usual noise crowding a discerning heart gets set aside and the Lord of silence speaks to the attentive heart.

By the time I finished my service I was ready to go to college with the intent to one day transfer to St. Josephs College Seminary. I kept saying “Lord, I am heading down this path I suspect you are calling me to, so if I’m mishearing your word let me know and I’ll switch.” Abundant grace is needed to survive a vocation in a world where confusion is widespread. I loved my time at St. Joe’s and being a somewhat later vocation, I experienced and tasted different paths and prayerfully kept on to Mundelein Seminary. I was to be there during a vibrant period with Bishop Barron as our rector, who inspired us and helped us see the beauty of the Church and the abiding priority of evangelization.

I have loved being a priest the past five years and had an opportunity to grow into the role of ministering. I hope to continue growing as a priest under Fr. Britto’s expert tutelage. I also enjoy playing sports and riding my motorcycle. I belong to a motorcycle club called the Knights of Christ. I love gardening, science fiction novels, and cooking. I look forward to meeting many new people and praying the Divine Liturgy in your community.



Fr Nick