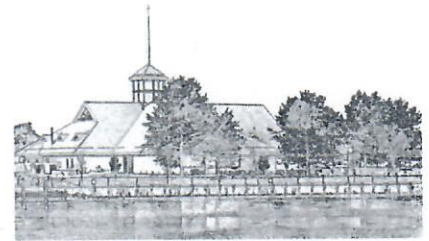


OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA
CATHOLIC CHURCH

PO BOX 560
SOLOMONS, MD 20688

410-326-3535



OLSTAR-SEA.MD@ADWPARISH.ORG

April 28, 2019

Dear OLSS Parishioners,

Did you ever have the experience of writing a letter over and over again because you don't know exactly how to say what you want to say? Well that is where I am. Nearly 44 years ago, I had the privilege to be ordained a Priest for the Archdiocese of Washington. In these years, which have flown by, I have been stationed in every area of the Archdiocese and also functioned in a job in the Pastoral Center, the Headquarters of the Church here in Washington.

I have enjoyed all these years, I have loved being a priest, which will continue until the day I die, and I have loved being in parish ministry. I haven't always loved administration work, but the role of priest is a gift and a privilege that has made my life fulfilled and rewarding. Now that I have reached the age of 71, I've requested that the Archbishop allow me to retire from assigned ministry and continue to minister in a different capacity. Eight years ago, Fr. Gardner retired and I was blessed to be assigned here. Now after these 44 years the time has come, in my life, to retire.

I will continue to serve as needs arise in various parishes so that the priests there will be able to take a vacation, or travel for a wedding or recover from illness or an operation. So many of our parishes, especially here in Southern Maryland are served by one priest and it is very difficult to always find someone to cover when a need arises. It is my hope to be able to help by making myself available to all the parishes in Calvert and St. Mary's Counties, as well as in other locations of the Archdiocese.

This means that I will be leaving Our Lady's parish after 8 wonderful years of working with you all. Not only has God blessed us with a beautiful place to live, but we live among some beautiful people. Most of us have come from someplace else, originally, and yet we have found a home here and have helped make it a home for others. I thank you for welcoming me so warmly and for making my time here so positive.

I look forward to returning, at times, to cover for your new Pastor, and getting to see you all again. The next two months will be filled with the continuation of parish life in the School, Confirmation, Weddings, the Gala, and daily life, as well as my preparations to figure out where I am going to live and preparing for that move. The time will go quickly and that is why I am writing now, so that we can all adjust to the idea of change and prepare to welcome a new Shepherd here at OLSS.

In His love and my own,



Msgr. Michael Wilson