

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Mary:

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens” (Ephesians 1:3). This weekend, in our Second Reading, St. Paul enumerates how we have been blessed by God, and all the more why we are called to give praise and thanksgiving to God. It is in this spirit of thanksgiving that I write to you: indeed, I am blessed to join your vibrant and faith-filled parish community as a resident priest. I am most grateful to your pastor, Fr. Jerry Jacob, his associate, Fr. Don Cambe, the pastoral team, and all of you for your warm welcome.



I also want to take this opportunity to introduce myself: I was born and raised in Chicago; I grew up on the near south side in Chinatown. (I am a White Sox fan!) I attended St. Therese Chinese Catholic School, Kenwood Academy High School in Hyde Park, and then went on to DePaul University. After discerning a call to priesthood, I entered Mundelein Seminary as a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Chicago in 2012. I graduated from the seminary and was ordained a priest in May of 2018. As a seminarian, I had the privilege of interning at Prince of Peace Parish in Lake Villa. Later as a transitional deacon, I served at Most Blessed Trinity Parish in Waukegan. After ordination to the priesthood, I began my first assignment as an Associate Pastor at St. Gilbert in Grayslake. Having concluded three years of service as an associate, I was honored to be appointed by Cardinal Blase Cupich as Chaplain to Carmel Catholic High School in Mundelein, full-time, effective July 1, 2021.

I have already begun ministry at Carmel, and it has been most enjoyable. We are in the midst of sports camps as well as summer school, and I have been meeting students and welcoming our incoming Freshman! As your resident, I look forward to assisting Fr. Jerry by typically celebrating a weekday and a weekend Mass each week. Please be assured of my prayers, and I ask that you please pray for me. With gratitude, I remain --

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Christian Shiu
Chaplain
Carmel Catholic High School