

Thoughts from the Rectory ...

Dear friends of St. John the Evangelist,

This week we begin the second half of 2021. Just imagining what the first half has brought, and what can be looked forward to in the second half, gives us encouragement and eagerness. We continue to meet each other with passion and zeal as brothers and sisters in Christ, and as a parish family reunited each and every week. In a special way, we celebrate the arrival of a new parochial vicar, Fr. John Hurley, announced last weekend.

Fr. Hurley comes to us having served as parochial vicar at Blessed Sacrament Church in Holyoke, as a chaplain at Jericho Bureau for Exceptional Children and Adults, and most recently in residence at Holy Name Parish in Springfield while serving in the diocesan Tribunal. We are eager to welcome him here in Agawam and look forward to his priestly service among us.

Together with ten of our Pre-School children and their families, we give thanks to all our volunteers, teachers, and staff for the school year, with three of our kids graduating to Kindergarten! Thanks especially to our teacher, Gabriel Marafuge, who will be taking up a new position in local public schools and sadly leaves our “In the Beginning” Pre-School ministry, yet does so with many blessed children and grateful hearts all around.

As we begin the month of July and the excitement of summer truly takes hold, let us be eager for the great life we share in faith. May the challenges that seem to come before us in varying ways, never discourage us from the task before us, that is sharing with Christ in the work of our salvation. He, our Savior, joins us in the good work of love and life. It is up to us to welcome Him into our lives and sanctify our love. How graced we are!

St. John the Evangelist, pray for us!

Fr. Pierz