



# *Sharing the life of Christ Being the love of Christ*

**October 12, 2019**

**Dear Parishioners of Jesus Our Living Water Area Faith Community (AFC):**

***After much prayer, reflection and facing aging realities - a couple months ago I concluded that it was time for me to start slowing down a bit by cutting back to half-time beginning January 1, 2020.***

***I made a written proposal to Fr. Steve detailing what I thought "half-time" would look like. After we finalized it together, he presented it to Bishop LeVoir and the Priest Personnel Board who approved it.***

***With Fr. Steve's encouragement, when I came to the AFC 8+ years ago at age 68, I thought I would minister full-time until age 70, retire and then have a place to live while "helping out" in the AFC in my "old age." By the grace of God, because of your gracious welcome and on-going support and because of general good health (except for 7 surgeries) I have been able to minister full-time almost 6 years beyond my original plan.***

***Even being half-time, I believe I can still make a significant contribution to ministry in the AFC. Granted, I cannot cut back without something changing so both AFC parishes will see some changes that actually envision what the future holds for everyone as the number of priests decreases. Our future Mass schedule is a step into the future.***

***I prefer to ease into retirement, but as long as my health remains, I hope to just stay ministering and living among you! May we all know the grace of God as we move forward into the future.***

**Fr. Jerry**

**Dear Parishioners of Jesus Our Living Water Area Faith Community:**

***I fully support Fr. Jerry's decision to exercise self-care and to go to half-time ministry in our Area Faith Community. I am so grateful for the many years he has given to full-time ministry beyond the normal time of retirement. We have all been blessed by his presence and pastoral zeal. I look forward to his continued presence in our AFC.***

***If you have any concerns or questions regarding the changes that will be taking place as a result of Fr. Jerry going to half-time bring them to Fr. Jerry or me.***

***In gratitude,  
Fr. Steve***

**Senior Associate Pastor - Half-Time Position (Job Description) – Fr. Jerry Paulson**

Here is what will change on January 1, 2020 when I move to a half-time position:

1. I am going to **half-time** salary-wise and **time**-wise.
2. During the **school** months (after Labor Day weekend until Memorial Day weekend) there will **NOT** be a **5 p.m. Mass at OLOL**. On 3 out of 4 weekends, I will do the **10 a.m. Mass at OLOL** and the other weekend, I will do the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass in Willmar and the pastor will celebrate the 10 a.m. Mass at OLOL. During the **school** months, **Confessions** at OLOL will be at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday.
3. During the **summer** months (from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend) there will be **TWO weekend Masses** at OLOL. I will do a **5 p.m. Mass at OLOL** on 3 out of 4 weekends and the other weekend, I will do the 4:30 p.m. Mass at St. Mary's and the pastor will celebrate the 5 p.m. Mass at OLOL. The pastor will celebrate the 10:30 a.m. Mass at OLOL. During the **summer** months **Confessions** at OLOL will be at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday.
4. During the **summer** months the **Mass schedule at St. Mary's** will be 4:30 p.m. on Saturday and a 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday. **There will NOT be a Spanish Mass during the summer months.** **Confessions** will be at 4 p.m. on Saturday at St. Mary's.
5. During the **school** months Monday and Saturday will be my **days off** (except for an occasional baptism on Saturday).
6. During the **summer** months Sunday and Monday will be my **days off**.
7. My **office hours** will be the mornings of Tuesday through Thursday or by appointment.
8. **On Fridays** after Mass I will leave the office and **lock the building** when the coffee crowd is gone as long as the bulletins, sound board manual, Commentary/Cantor binder, Intercessions binder are ready for the weekend and if the maintenance person is not working.
9. As of June 30, 2020, I will **NOT** be the celebrant for any **weddings**, no exceptions (unless the pastor gets sick or something and I need to step in on an emergency situation).
10. I am not expected to attend **Staff Meetings** but am welcome to do so.
11. I am not required to be at **"Meal Night"** or to be present after Wednesday classes are dismissed to meet/greet parents/students, but I may choose to be present at times.
12. **Vacation time/sick time/recovery time** and Mass schedules would have to be negotiated at the time.

Here is what will stay the same:

1. During the **school** months the **Mass schedule at St. Mary's** will be 4:30 p.m. on Saturday and 9:30 a.m. (English) and 11:00 a.m. (Spanish) on Sundays. **Confessions** at 4 p.m. Saturday.
2. I will celebrate **daily Masses** at OLOL on Tuesday through Friday, except on the first Tuesday of the month the Mass will be at **Grace Living Community (Glen Oaks)** in New London.
3. I will celebrate all Masses/services at OLOL for **Holydays: Christmas – Holy Thursday – Good Friday** and **Easter** as well as **Thanksgiving Day** and **Memorial Day**.
4. I will celebrate a **noon Mass** at St. Mary's on **First Fridays** and a **noon Mass** on **Wednesdays** when the pastor is gone for several days.
5. I remain the person responsible for **picking up the bulletins/sound board manual** at St. Mary's on Thursday or Friday or will arrange for someone else to do it.
6. I will do **First Friday communion calls** for OLOL shut-ins.
7. I will do the **Anointing of the Sick** as needed and be available for **funerals**.
8. I will do **Baptisms** year around as long as they are outside of Mass.
9. I will be available to assist with **Penance Services** and the **Communal Anointing of the Sick Mass** in the AFC.
10. I will **train Altar Servers at OLOL**.
11. I will be available for those times that **Faith Formation** needs a priest – Confessions for the Confirmation Class – vocation talk, etc.
12. I will be available to cover **emergencies** and **vacation coverage/other absences** of the pastor.