



In gathering my thoughts of farewell, first and foremost, I want to thank everyone who has allowed me the opportunity to share in ministry and celebration. To the many children with whom I was able to minister and help them grow in their quest for Jesus Christ through their faith formation classes and First Communion programs. Also, to the families who regularly attend the 9am Mass I thank you and your children for sharing your faith, your household and familial mishaps and always keeping me on my toes throughout my homilies and in the celebration of God's love in the Mass. Your smiles and enthusiasm has brought much joy to my life. To all parishioners my thanks and gratitude for being able to share my priesthood and ministry in truth, integrity and sincerity.

The pressing need for a priest in Westport has caused my assignment to move quickly. However I would hope to return in the fall when I might have an opportunity to bid farewell in a more appropriate setting than through a bulletin announcement.

It is with mixed emotions I leave St. Edward Parish. I am saddened as I leave wonderful, dedicated, hard-working and Christ-filled people — men, women and children with whom I have enjoyed being with and sharing in faith. I am happy because I leave New Fairfield to continue my ministry in service to the people of God.

My three years in New Fairfield have been as challenging as they have been graced through your prayers, support, love and friendship. During this time if I have offended, kindly forgive me. During this time if I have been able to help you in any way, I thank you. During this time if I have helped bring you closer to Christ, thank Him. During this time for your many kindnesses, may God bless you.

My departing thought and prayer is in the hope of strength, peace and courage guided through the grace of the Holy Spirit that your hearts and lives be filled with the love of God and His beloved son Jesus Christ.

As I bid farewell I ask your prayers in the promise of mine for each of you.

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