

Dear parishioners of OLL & ICC,

It's hard for me to believe, but it's been three months already, since I said goodbye to you wonderful folks. I think of you very often and miss your faces and smiles and high-fives. I'm enjoying my new parish, St. Pius X, here in Reynoldsburg, but it's certainly been an adjustment! My predecessor, Msgr. Funk, has been one of my greatest mentors & models since seminary, so it's been a relatively smooth transition, in terms of ministry styles. At the same time, the pace, breadth, and amount of ministerial responsibilities has definitely increased! The good Lord continues to teach me, though, how to balance it all, with prayer and the Holy Eucharist remaining my anchor and greatest source of strength. My dog, Raya, is the local celebrity, especially with our grade school students, and she is loving every bit of the attention and affection. I hear, though, that she has nothing on Fr. Ferguson's cat, Jackie, who has her own column in the bulletin! I imagine that you're already appreciating the blessing God has given you in having Fr. Ferguson, as your new pastor. He is such a good and holy priest: dedicated, prayerful, and compassionate. It has been a special grace for me, personally, knowing that God has entrusted you, two parishes so dear to me, into the capable and kind hands of this good man! How very grateful I am! Speaking of gratitude, I want to thank you, once again, for being so gracious and generous to me – with all of the cards and gifts you gave me as I was moving away – and for everything you did for me, over the past twelve years. You remain in my heart and in my prayers. Please keep praying for me, too!

With love and with gratitude,

Fr. Dave