



Dear Parishioners of St. Victor:

The long-awaited day has arrived and as of Trinity Sunday, June 7, I am now back on active duty with the Navy for approximately fourteen months. I am thankful for the outpouring of support and promises of prayers on my behalf for what promises to be a challenging year in Afghanistan. I am also thankful for Fr. Paul, who will be the Pastoral Administrator of the parish and school in my absence: with only a few minor conditions, he has as much authority and responsibility over this parish as any St. Victor Pastor has had since its founding. My fond hope is that the parishioners support him as much as you have supported me this past year.

Fr. Perata has thankfully been generous to me personally and to this parish since his retirement and you will see more of him on Sundays than has been the case over the past year. The amazing Fr. Dwyer, in his sixtieth year of priesthood, and the Carmelites will also continue assisting the parish priests on Sundays. Of course, without Fr. Lim's steadfastness we might as well pack up the parish and head over to St. John Vianney: we all owe him a great deal of thanks for his ministry here.

My thanks to Jean Dargis for his leading the parish staff and Patricia Wolf for her leadership as Principal of St. Victor School. Although I leave with a heavy heart for what I will miss at SV over the next year, I fully expect to return to an even-healthier parish and school in August 2010.

Last of all, many people have asked how to contact me and send items during the deployment. The spirit of generosity to the troops is commendable but as my "storage space" will consist of what I can carry on my back, I am taking very little with me. As needs arise, I will contact Michelle Rich, the Parish Office Manager, and she will seek out specific parish organizations for assistance.

However, electrons are very light! While my email access will be limited and erratic, feel free to email me at [frmichael@priest.com](mailto:frmichael@priest.com). I probably won't answer most emails, but from my experience with past deployments you can assume that I will read most everything that comes my way.

Yours in Christ,

  
Fr. Michael Hendrickson