

Dear Parishioner/s

It is my pleasure to introduce to you Your New Parish Administrator, Fr. Marian Babjak

Fr. Babjak was born in 1971 in *Brezno*, Slovakia and was raised in *Teplicka nad Vahom*. Fr. Marian attended Saints Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Bratislava and was ordained to priesthood on June 19, 1995. After his ordination, Fr. Marian ministered as a Parochial Vicar in parishes within the diocese of Banska Bystrica, Slovakia as well as in a diocese in Austria. For two years he was a secretary to the bishop of Banska Bystrica and he continued his studies at the John Paul II Catholic University in Lublin, Poland. After 10 years of service in his home diocese, he attended a course of spirituality in Florence, Italy, and returned to Slovakia. At his final parish assignment there, Fr. Marian was responsible for building a church and rectory for his parish. While finishing his studies in education, teaching, philosophy and languages (German, Italian and English), Fr. Marian also taught religion and German language for 20 years in various parishes schools.



Fourteen years ago, Fr. Babjak came to the United States, serving at St. Rose Parish in Girard as he pursued further studies of English language at Youngstown State University. He had such a wonderful experience at St. Rose Parish that he decided to come back and to stay and minister in the Diocese of Youngstown. It took him ten years for that dream to become a reality. When Fr. Babjak returned to our diocese in 2016, he was in residency at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Boardman before he was assigned as an Associate Pastor at St. Paul in North Canton in July 2017.

Fr. Marian and his dog Alex will arrive to Struthers in the second half of August and his official first day at Christ Our Savior Parish will be on August 22, 2020.

As Fr. Marian is getting ready to minister at Christ Our Savior Parish, I have started to pack and organize my things before I start my ministry as pastor at Holy Family Parish. Since some people have been asking about my whereabouts until August 21, I have decided to share that with you so I do not have to explain myself over and over.

1. I will be away from the parish from July 22 (afternoon) until Monday August 3, 2020. I will not be available to answer phones or emails since the place where I am going does not have any phone reception.
2. I will be in the parish from August 3 – August 21. My last mass will be on Friday August 21.
3. During my time away from July 23- August 3rd, Fr. Bernie will be celebrating masses and funerals.
4. The only masses streaming on Facebook during my vacation will be **Sunday July 26, and August 2 at 11 AM. NO DAILY MASSES OR OTHER SUNDAY MASSES WILL BE STREAMED FROM JULY 24-AUGUST 3, 2020.**

Please keep Fr. Marian and me in your prayers as we are getting ready for our new assignments

Have a blessed day.

In prayers
Fr. Martin