



THE PARISH

ESTABLISHED IN 1895

February 18, 2022

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

After six years of service as the pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish and School, I have discerned that I need a change of assignment. At my request, Bishop Mark Brennan has generously granted me a one-year leave of absence. Starting March 1, 2022, I will be assigned to be a priest-in-residence at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarksburg, WV. A friend of mine, Father Casey Mahone, is the pastor of that parish. Those closest to me have encouraged me to make this change quickly, and my last weekend at St Vincent's Parish will be February 26th and 27th. On March 1, 2022, Father Harry Dunn will be assigned to serve the parish for an interim period. Deacon Thom Trunzo has agreed to work with Fr. Harry Dunn to provide leadership and guidance to the parish community during this interim period. By July 1, 2022, a new pastor will be assigned to parish.

I would like to give you an update on the search for a new principal for St. Vincent de Paul Grade School. You may have heard that Ms. Laurajenn Rossell is retiring from the post as principal at the end of this June. A talented group of parishioners are serving on our Principal Search Committee, and the effort to find a new principal is guided by Mrs. Mary Ann Deschaine, the Diocesan Superintendent of Schools. Already we have received resumes from qualified candidates, and a decision to select a new principal will be made in the coming months. In addition to the parish receiving a new pastor on July 1, 2022, the school is on track to receive a new principal starting on the same date.

There is much faith and generosity in this community. Work has been done to improve our buildings. Our Society of St. Vincent de Paul open-handedly serves the poor. Another great year of St. Vincent Summer Camp will happen this summer in Huttonsville. The St. Vincent Parish Educational Fund has grown and will provide future support for Catholic Education. Each Easter Season, children and adults receive the sacraments of initiation. People grow in faith in weekly Small Groups gatherings. In Wheeling, St. Vincent de Paul Church is often known as "the friendly parish."

During this upcoming year, it is my goal to grow in physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. My ambition is to enjoy many more productive years of priestly ministry within the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Thank you for your friendship. Soon the Church will enter the holy season of Lent, and all of us, no matter where we are, will move forward to encounter the Lord Jesus in the celebration of another Holy Week and a new Easter.

God Bless You All,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Hudock". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rev. Msgr. Paul Hudock