



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church
1322 Moss Street (*Office*)
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119
Phone 504.488-2659 Fax 504.488-6741
www.ourladyoftherosary-no.org
Email: office@ourladyoftherosary-no.com

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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Just before I left for the summer, I had the blessing of visiting Holy Rosary when our parishioner, Elizabeth Rizzo, was consecrated by Archbishop Aymond to a life of virginity lived in the world. I say this was a blessing because, in addition to experiencing the beauty of such a special liturgy, I had the opportunity to meet many of you at the reception. One person I met asked me a question that many of you may be wondering: "Father, what is your plan?"

I appreciated that question because, surely, all of you have plans, ideas, and dreams that we would like to see come to life in our parish. And I am no different, I have many thoughts and many ideas - things that I have done before and things that I have seen done in other places. But there is one plan that I have that stands out above all the rest of those thoughts and ideas.

My plan is to learn. Since I am new to Holy Rosary, it will take me time to get to know the parish and to get to know you. Indeed, learning about our parish and getting to know you is sure to be a process that will last for years. There will always be new things to learn; I will always be able to get to know you better. And so this is my plan as the new pastor: to get to know our parish and to get to know you.

I am excited to learn what it is that you love about Holy Rosary; and I am equally excited to discern with you how God may be calling our parish to serve Him in new ways. When I return to New Orleans, I look forward to announcing a process that I hope will help to facilitate this process of learning - a process that will help me to get to know you and to hear your thoughts and ideas about our parish.

I am counting down the days until I return to New Orleans and get moved in to the rectory!
My first Mass in the parish will be the 7:00am Mass on Tuesday, August 1st. Please pray for me as my summer studies come to an end and know that all of you remain daily in my prayers.

To Jesus through Mary,

Fr. Jonathan
jhemelt@arch-no.org

As you can see, the small repairs and painting in the church are being completed as is the painting of the rectory. Thanks again to Fr. Ken for planning all this before he left; and thanks to Dee and Grace for seeing this through!