



+May 2-3, 2026

*To the Parishioners of
Holy Spirit Parish, Kent
St. John the Baptist Parish, Covington*

Dear Friends,

I am happy to greet all of you in the name of the Risen Lord Jesus!

After consultation with the Priest Personnel Board, I write today to inform you that I have appointed a new pastor for your parish family. I am pleased to announce that Father Chad Hill will serve as your new pastor beginning July 1, 2026. Currently, Father Hill is a parochial vicar at St. Edward Parish in Shelton and St. Michael Parish in Olympia.

Father Hill is a wonderful priest who will diligently and faithfully serve you and your parish family. Be assured that he will receive all the necessary support and assistance from the Archdiocese of Seattle to ensure quality pastoral care for your parish family.

At the same time, I want to personally express my gratitude to Father Crispin Okoth for graciously assuming the role of priest administrator; to Father Gilberto Mora Tapia for his willingness to be more present to your parish family; to Tom East and the parish staff for faithfully carrying important administrative responsibilities over these last few months. I am deeply grateful for their generous service and steady leadership. I ask you to please keep Father Okoth and Father Tapia in your prayers as they both continue responding to God's call in their assignments as parochial vicars of your parish family.

Times of transition can be challenging, especially as we prepare to welcome a new pastoral leader. However, if embraced in an open and positive way, this can be a time of blessing for the entire parish and the Catholic Church of Western Washington. I am confident that will be the case as you welcome Father Hill to your parish family. As always, I remain,

In The Heart of Christ,

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

Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL
Archbishop of Seattle