

August 2019

To The Parishioners of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish,

To My Dear Friends,

I wanted to thank you all for such a wonderful summer. I had such an enjoyable time here at your parish. Thank you for inviting me into the parish family.

My time here with you has been such a grace! I have learned so much under Fr. LaHood and from you all. Thank you for all your support, generosity, hospitality, kindness and welcoming smiles every week. There are many of you to whom I never got to say, "Goodbye." Hopefully it will be just a "goodbye for now," and down the road I will be able to return to the parish and see you again. I am going now to complete my third year in Rome, and upon returning, I will be ordained a deacon —God willing! The ordination to the diaconate will be scheduled for June, and as the date gets closer, I will be sure to forward more information to Fr. LaHood so he can keep you all in the loop. It would be wonderful to see you all there!

I count on your prayers! I have mentioned to some that when I began formation in the seminary, it seemed like it was going to be quite a long journey. However, these last few years accelerate right to priestly ordination. With only two years to go, it is exciting and terrifying all at the same time. Please keep me in your prayers, as I hope and pray to God that one day I will be a good priest. I hope to serve Him as one of His faithful sons at the altar, and to serve you as a father and minister of the Sacraments. It is an immensely grace-filled vocation, but also supremely challenging. As a man, I will be called to be another Christ. This is only possible by a total self-surrender and a daily laying down of my life. However, because of the sacrifice of my life, Jesus will stand by His promises and fill me with His life and give me the grace to carry out His will each and every day. I beg you all to keep me and all your priests in your prayers, that we might be men of true and total self-surrender! May our Blessed Mother pray for and protect you all. May the Lord bless you all abundantly and pour every grace on you and your families. May He give you strength in this crazy world to be the witnesses you are called to be by your Baptism. Never stop striving to be Saints!

Sincerely,
Nicholas Morrison —your summer seminarian