

Dear Celina Cluster Parishioner,

It is with sadness and yet a profound sense of gratitude that I anticipate my final weekend as Pastor of the Celina Cluster June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> and the Missionaries of the Precious Blood returning the pastoral care of the Celina Cluster back to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

As I reflect upon these last twelve years with IC and St. Teresa and the last three years with Our Lady of Guadalupe, I am humbled and feel truly blest in so many ways. I have been blest to minister and serve with amazing and dedicated staff, who are not only concerned with the responsibilities of their positions, but also doing so with compassion, understanding and genuine love of others. I have been blest to be surrounded by so many faith filled parishioners who reverence and cherish the gift of the Eucharist, who find hope and strength in the sacraments of the Church, who seek to live and witness the gift of faith and who are grateful, giving and generous stewards willing to share their time, talent and treasure with others. Joy and gratitude well up in my heart when I think of all that we have done together through God's grace and help: maintaining and upgrading our facilities; making our churches and parishes places of hospitality and warmth; cherishing, celebrating and passing on the gift of faith in our words and our witness and helping the less fortunate by our outreach. And I have been blest by the witness and wonder of the children of IC School, our religious education programs and all the youth who are so important to our church today and for the future. Each of these and so many more, are reminders of how blest I have been in the Celina Cluster.

Our Precious Blood community has also been blest having served each of our Celina Cluster parishes since the very beginning; IC since 1864, OLG since 1904 and St. Teresa since 1937. There have been over 125 Precious Blood priests and brothers who have served in our parishes over the years and that is not counting seminarians who taught for many years in each of the parishes. As our Precious Blood community takes leave of IC, OLG and St. Teresa, be assured that each of you will always be in our hearts and in our prayers. We ask that you remember and pray for us as well. There will be a ritual at each of the Masses next weekend say farewell.

My life, ministry and service have been enriched by my time with you, I pray that I may have enriched yours as well. Blessings and prayers, Fr. Ken