

## *A note from the Pastor...*

Greetings parishioners of St. Clare Parish. Please know how happy I am to have been assigned as your pastor by Bishop Malesic. Allow me to share a little bit about myself and my priesthood.

I grew up in Madison, Ohio, attending public school from kindergarten through my senior year of high school and PSR at my home parish, Immaculate Conception Parish in Madison where I was an altar server. For many years my family ran DeRubertis Party Center in Madison where I worked along with my parents, Scott and Charmaine, now both retired, my sister Ashley, now married with two daughters, and my grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Growing up in Madison, I was involved in scouting, piano lessons, softball, riding four-wheelers and camping out with friends, high school and local theater, tennis, chess team, computer club and math competitions. To this day, I continue to enjoy hiking through our beautiful parks, seeing movies, playing TTRPG and board games and enjoying fellowship with my brother priests.

After high school, I enrolled at John Carroll University, where I planned on majoring in mathematics. During my freshman year, I began to seriously consider what God was calling me to do with my life and how I could best serve Him. My pastor, Father Luigi Miola, (currently pastor of Saint Martin of Tours in Maple Heights) encouraged me to visit the seminary. I attended a vocation program in Spring 2001...and it was "love at first sight". I was deeply inspired by the seminarians and their dedication to prayer and experienced a deep conviction to enter seminary to discern God's call to the priesthood. I entered Borromeo Seminary in the fall of 2001 as a college sophomore.

Some young men struggle with discernment of their priestly calling, but my discernment was rather easy. Each year, as ordination grew closer, my desire to serve God as a priest deepened. I certainly encourage all young people to seriously consider and prayerfully discern how God is calling you to serve Him.

During my seminary years, I was able to serve at Cuyahoga County Jail, Marymount Hospital, and Holy Redeemer Parish in Collinwood. I interned at Holy Trinity Parish in Avon, worked with adolescents struggling with chemical dependency at New Direction Treatment Facility in Pepper Pike, and served as a transitional deacon at Holy Cross Parish, now Our Lady of the Lake Parish, in Euclid. During my senior year of college seminary, I had the privilege of studying in Rome at the Dominican University, the Angelicum.

I was ordained a priest in 2009 by Bishop Richard Lennon in the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. My first assignment was as parochial Vicar at Saint Columbkille Parish in Parma. I was assigned for a year as parochial Vicar at St Angela Merici Parish in Fairview Park before serving four wonderful years here at Saint Clare with Fr. Klasinski and Fr. Wendelken, God rest his soul.

In Spring of 2018, I was assigned to Holy Family Parish in Parma where I served just six months before being assigned as pastor of St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish on the westside of Cleveland.

Serving as pastor of Saint Ignatius of Antioch Parish was one of the great challenges and joys of my priesthood – a parish of resolute faith, dedicated to continuing the mission of the Church in a changing neighborhood.

In addition to my pastorate, I was assigned by Bishop Malesic as Chaplain of Courage/Encourage – one of the Church's special apostolates for those with same-sex attraction and their family members (visit [couragec.org](http://couragec.org) for more information). I also served the last five years as spiritual director for the West Side Comitium of the Legion of Mary. I am a certified case specialist, trained in helping people through the annulment process. Before COVID I learned how to celebrate the Traditional Latin Mass (a.k.a. Extraordinary Form of the Mass), which I offered for two and a half years at St. Ignatius of Antioch and other parishes. I was also honored last year to be invested as a Knight of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem. I post my homilies on Facebook and also on my homily blog <http://fatherkevinestabrook.blogspot.com>.

I look forward to working closely with the pastoral councils, the parish staffs, finance councils, and parishioners, to discern and meet the needs of the two parishes.

I pray that through my seminary training and previous parish and extra-parochial assignments, God has prepared me for this new challenge of pastoring the two parishes of St. Clare and Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Please call the office or email me at [fr.kevin.estabrook@gmail.com](mailto:fr.kevin.estabrook@gmail.com) if there is anything I can do for you. Please pray for me as I will pray for you. Oremus pro invicem (let us pray for one another).

Sincerely in Christ,

*Rev. Kevin Estabrook*

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