

August 17, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

On Wednesday of this week I will become your Pastor. I would like you to know what an honor and privilege it is to have been chosen for this ministry. I am very excited about this challenge and eager to serve you. I am thrilled that Fr. Dan Duff will be working with me as our Parochial Vicar.

I thought it might be helpful for me to fill you in on some important details of how I see the pastorate working.

1. I will be living in Frankfort. It makes most sense for me to live there because I can speak Spanish fairly well. Fr. Dan has limited ability with Spanish. It is more likely that someone who only speaks Spanish will come to Frankfort rather than Lebanon. Because of that, I have chosen to live in Frankfort. Fr. Dan will be living in the parish house in Lebanon.
2. I wish to be called Fr. Paul and Fr. Dan wishes to be called Fr. Dan. We can both answer to our last names, but the preference is for our first names.
3. The main office for the pastorate will be in Lebanon, there will be a satellite office in Frankfort.
4. We have at our disposal a retired priest who occasionally may be called upon to help out. His name is Fr. Dominic Young and he will be living in Frankfort.
5. I believe that the change in priests is enough change for a parish for the next year. Because of that thought, I do not intend to change the Mass schedule any time soon. Fr. Dan and I will be rotating covering the Masses in both locations.
6. I have asked the staff members to strive to maintain any programs in the parish the same as last year as much as possible. Stability is what parishioners need right now.
7. The Coronavirus will necessitate some changes. We need to be sensible and make sure parishioners are protected as much as possible.
8. If you wish to contact me, you are free to phone me at 219-819-0078 or email me at [fr.pcochran@dol-in.org](mailto:fr.pcochran@dol-in.org).
9. The number one goal of the coming year will be for Fr. Dan and myself to get to know the parishioners and the staff and for the staff and parishioners to get to know ourselves.
10. Included with this mailing is a short biography of myself and Fr. Dan so that you can begin to get to know us. We are both eager to get to know you.

You are invited this Sunday to a Holy Hour to pray with Fr. Dan and myself for the success of our new ministry. The Holy Hour will be at 3PM in Frankfort and 6PM in Lebanon. Hope to see you there.



Fr. Paul



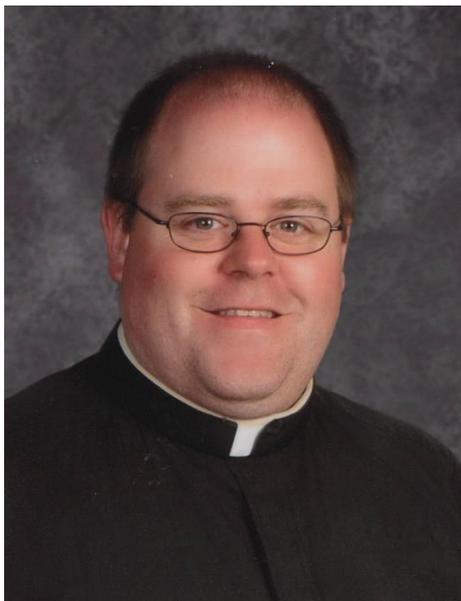
Fr. Paul W. Cochran

Fr. Paul W. Cochran was born on December 11, 1960 in Biloxi, Mississippi to Robert and Louise Cochran. His father was in the Air Force and his mother was a nurse. He was the fourth child of a total of eight children in his family. He went to first grade at St. Francis de Sales in Baker, Oregon. His family then relocated to his mother's home of Peru, Indiana where he attended St. Charles Grade School and public Junior and Senior High School. He graduated from high school in 1979 and headed off to Purdue University to study Molecular Genetics. He graduated from Purdue in 1983 and began to study for the priesthood after finishing at Purdue. He received a M.A. and a M. Div. degrees from St. Meinrad Seminary in southern Indiana. He was ordained a priest on June 4, 1988.

His first assignment was at St. Mary Parish in Muncie, Indiana. After three and a half years he was transferred to Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Carmel, Indiana where he also ministered for three and a half years. He then was assigned to St. Louis de Montfort Parish in Fishers, Indiana for one year. He then went to San Antonio for four months to study Spanish and the Hispanic Culture at the Mexican American Cultural Center. He then was assigned to St. Joan of Arc Parish in Kokomo where his primary responsibility was Hispanic Ministry. In 1999 he was appointed a Pastor at St. Mary's in Alexandria. In 2005 he took on added responsibilities of being the Pastor of St. Joseph in Elwood, a neighboring parish. In 2011 he was assigned to Sorrowful Mother Parish in Wheatfield. In 2020 he was assigned as a Missionary Pastor to the parishes of St. Joseph in Lebanon and St. Mary in Frankfort.

He enjoys traveling, antiques and collecting things.

He is looking forward very much to going on this new adventure in Lebanon and Frankfort.



Fr. Dan Duff

I was born in Glendale Heights, IL (near Chicago). When I was nine years old, my parents, my two older brothers and I moved to Carmel. We attended Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church and my brothers and I went to school there through eighth grade. I graduated from Carmel High School in 1998 and from Ball State University in 2002. After graduating from Ball State, I entered Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. I completed seminary in 2007 with a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Theology. I was ordained a priest on June 16, 2007.

Following ordination, I was assigned to St. Lawrence Parish in Lafayette. In July of 2008, St. Mary's Cathedral was clustered with St. Lawrence, so I ministered at both parishes through the summer of 2009. I was then assigned to St. Joan of Arc and St. Patrick parishes in Kokomo for one year before moving to St. Maria Goretti in Westfield. In 2012 I was appointed Pastor of St. Joseph Church in Elwood and St. Mary Church in Alexandria.

I look forward to the opportunities in Frankfort and Lebanon to serve God and you, his people.