

November 16, 2025

## WEEKLY LETTER FROM MONSIGNOR KEN

We are excited to welcome Father Vincent who will be at Mass for the last two weekends of this month. As you know, he was just here in May, the time of year when he usually visits us, so this is an extra and a surprise visit. This time he is coming with some exciting news.

When he was last here, I joked that I thought that he might have been named the new pope! I have also commented many times, in all seriousness, that he might one day be a bishop. Well, not yet, but he has received a great promotion. Like you, I have seen what an extraordinary priest he is, and the amazing work he has done in Holy Trinity and with St. Mary's High School. As it turns out, we are not the only ones who noticed.

As you may also remember, Father Vincent has been pursuing a Master's Degree, a goal that has made his schedule extremely busy. So much so, that it was difficult for him to find time to come and for us to visit him. He finally finished his work and passed his exam with, as they say, with flying colors! Again, others noticed.

When I was at Holy Trinity in August, one day at lunch, Mary Goss and I were talking with Father about all that has been accomplished and what the future might hold. The expression on Father's face changed and he said, "Let's take a walk." We strolled around the grounds of the parish and he shared conversations he was having with the Bishop. It wasn't definite, but I could see the handwriting on the wall. A few weeks after I returned, Mary Goss called me and shared with me the news. Father Vincent was being made a Monsignor and being elevated to Vicar General of the Diocese! That's like being the number 2 man in the Diocese. Being named Monsignor is more than just a title of respect, it means a position of prominence. This is an incredible honor, and one he well-deserves and is very much capable of. Yes, I think we all knew that he was "going places." However, given his profound sense of ministry, this is not an elevation to importance (which it is), but a call to deeper service in the Church.

The other side of this exciting news is that Father Vincent is no longer pastor of Holy Trinity. For me, that fills me with a bit of melancholy and nostalgia. I knew this would happen, but he has truly been Holy Trinity and St. Mary's High School. I cannot even imagine the sadness of the people to whom he has poured out his heart and soul.

This is life. Change happens. Father Vincent will continue to serve the Church, now in a new and higher manner. Holy Trinity will continue as will St. Mary's High School. And, perhaps, one day, Father Vincent might be bishop. I would not be surprised in the least!

In the meantime, our commitment of twinning with Holy Trinity and St. Mary's High School will continue. I do not know the new pastor, but will find out when Father Vincent comes next week. It will feel different, but just as we didn't know Father Vincent when all this began, we will get to know a new pastor and continue our friendship and partnership. However, we also have a lasting friendship with Father Vincent. We love him and will continue to support him. When he arrives, we will find out more but let us keep him in our prayers as he assumes this new position. While this is incredibly exciting and amazing news for him and the Church, the other point to remember, even though he is still our lovable Father Vincent, we must now learn to call him, **MONSIGNOR VINCENT MUKIIBI!** Congratulations!

*"I am among you as the one who serves." (Luke 22:27)*