

WELCOME Deacon Henry C. Miner to Holy Trinity!

When we first heard Deacon Henry Miner speak a few weeks ago, people couldn't quite resolve his accent. Turns out he hails from Guam, spent time in Hawaii, and a year in L.A.

Deacon Henry moved his family from Guam to Honolulu in 1987. They lived there, loving the Honolulu sun up until 2012. They are now successfully adjusting to the fog and rain of the Puget Sound region. The frequent visits to friends and family in the area previewed the differences, and the Miners knew what to expect.

Henry was USPS employee in Hawaii, and became a Deacon for the Archdiocese of Hawaii in 2007. When he retired from the Postal Service in 2010, the Miners left Hawaii for L.A., and Henry served as Deacon at two parishes. But, like the song says, "L.A. is a great big freeway", Margaret didn't care for that so much. The couple have two sons in the L.A. area and a son and daughter in-law in Texas, who have three sons.



They opted for the Northwest pace and lifestyle last October. Henry looked about for new opportunities to serve as Deacon--Poulsbo was a possibility, but Father Jack had the greater need. The Miners became acquainted with Father Jack throughout their visits, and attendance at masses and parish celebrations. Fr. Jack ministered to Margaret's family at times of sickness and he officiated at her mom and sister's funerals. Our large and active Chamorro community has welcomed the Miners and perhaps sealed the deal. The journey has taken Henry through varied settings--Hawaiian, urban L.A., and now to us.

The Diocese of Seattle required background investigations, records to be obtained from the Diocese of Honolulu and Los Angeles before recommendations from both the Diocesan Director of Deacons and the Vicar of Clergy of Seattle. The Deacon recognized the Diocesan need to investigate him, even though he ran a similar gauntlet in the L.A. & Honolulu Dioceses. He approached all these processes with humility and said, "The Lord will take care of it. Every Diocese is understandably different and must act on what needs to be done." Deacon Roy Harrington, Director of Deacons for Seattle Archdiocese, has officially announced the appointment of Deacon Henry Miner by Archbishop Peter Sartain to the Archdiocese of Seattle effective February 2014.

Father Henry Hernando, the Chaplain at the Bangor sub-Base, has been a mentor and the Military Bishop has O.K.'d Deacon Henry's services there, too.

The Sacrament of Ordination to the Diaconate has stamped an indelible seal in Deacon Henry's mind, heart and soul, making him an official servant of the Lord.

But what about Henry's journey to extraordinary service as a Deacon? He speaks of it with an expression of gratitude, God's love and forgiveness--as a total conversion, going from a Sunday Catholic; to his attendance of daily mass; to ministries with homebound parishioners, prayer



groups, hospital and baptismal preparation ministries. Deacon Henry attended a Divine Mercy Retreat, which he credits with giving rise to his inspiration to, “seek the Lord.”

It was an older Deacon in his parish community at Star of the Sea in Honolulu who said, "Hey, you should..." The idea grew on Henry, and his pastor recommended Henry for acceptance into the training for Deacons. Deacon Henry C. Miner has taken the long road to be of service here at Holy Trinity Parish in Bremerton. Our community welcomes him. When he says, “Amen” at the end of his homily, our community gives Deacon Henry an “Amen” on back.

Deacon Henry Miner, Bishop Mike Barber from Oakland, CA. & Fr. Henry Hernando at New Year's Mass at Jackson Park, Bremerton.



Fr. Paul Greisgraber & Father Ignacio-St Bridget, Van Nuys, CA. & Deacon Henry at Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration.