

Hello Holy Trinity parishioners!

It is my joy to begin ministering here after my previous assignment at St. Louise in Bellevue. I have been waiting to begin as your new priest administrator and am anxious to meet all of you. Here's a little bit about myself:

My preference is to be called Fr. Ben, I won't get upset if you call me Fr. Bray, but I prefer Fr. Ben. I have a loving mom and dad, with 3 brothers and a sister. I love college football, especially WSU Cougars and my secondary team, Iowa State Cyclones! I also root for the Seahawks, Jacksonville Jaguars, Mariners, Kraken and Boston Celtics. I love coffee-a little too much sometimes! I love seeing my friends and visiting my godchildren (two godsons Max and George, and my goddaughter Lucia). Finally, I love the **saints!** You will hear me preach and teach about them. My favorites are St. John Paul II, Therese of Lisieux, St. Francis De Sales and many others.

So that's a little bit about me, I look forward to meeting and getting to know all of you! With this being a larger community, I ask for your patience as I learn your names. Don't be surprised if it takes a while as there's a lot of you and one of me! I will get there in time.

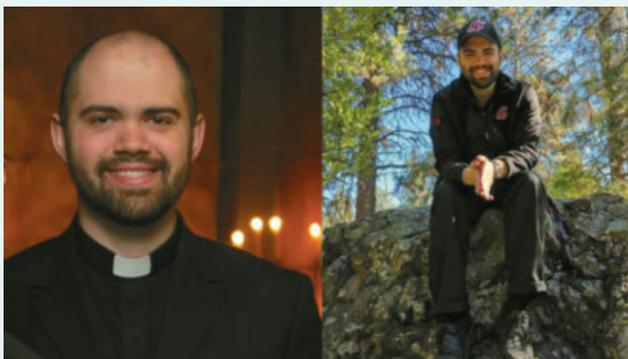
Speaking of time, I realize that we are entering a new time together. This is a season of transition and it brings many feelings. In all these, it is important for all of us to lean into our faith. We don't need to look further than the name of our parish - **Holy Trinity**. I heard from my previous pastor in Bellevue and long-time mentor, Fr. Gary Zender, that we are loved by the Father over us, walk with Jesus alongside us and are transformed within by the Holy Spirit.

That's comforting isn't it? We are surrounded by so much love and how often do we forget it, especially when are anxious or afraid? But in the words of St John Paul II, "be not afraid"! This is a new season for all of us, yet God is guiding us at all times. All we have to do is lean into Him and He will show all of us the way forward.

Please know of my prayers for you and please, pray for me as well. If I can be of service to you in any way, please let me know!

God bless,

Fr. Ben Bray



"Have patience with all things but first with yourself.

Never confuse your mistakes with your value as a human being.

You are perfectly valuable, creative, worthwhile person simply because you exist.

And no amount of triumphs or tribulations can ever change that."

St. Francis De Sales