

Dear Faith Formation Families,

Allow me to introduce myself as your new pastor.

Like Fr. Jerome, I too am a monk of Saint John's Abbey. I came to Saint John's Prep School when I was 13 years old and Saint John's has been my home for the past 68 years. This year I am celebrating 55 years as a priest.

After being ordained, I taught German Prep School for 18 years, including seven years of directing a year-long study abroad program in Austria with juniors. In 1978 I was given my first assignment as pastor of Saint John the Baptist parish during which time I also had the opportunity to celebrate School Masses in what was then Saint Joseph Lab School.

I love to spend time with children, and I have taken youth on more than 120 wilderness camping trips to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, some of them were Winter Survival Challenges! Teaching children basic guitar chords and hearing them play for Mass was also awesome. But most of all, I enjoy the privilege of being a pastor and celebrating the Sacraments with the parishioners young and old and exploring with all the wonderful stories and teachings in the Bible.

Looking forward to meeting you
all in the months ahead.

Peace,

Fr. Roger Klassen, OSB

