

It is "God, who is rich in mercy" whom Jesus Christ has revealed to us as Father: it is His very Son who, in Himself, has manifested Him and made Him known to us...In this way, in Christ and through Christ, God also becomes especially visible in His mercy; ~ St. John Paul II

Dear People of St. Mary's Newton and Sacred Heart Halstead,

It is my honor and privilege that Bishop Carl Kemme has assigned me to be your parochial vicar in your two parishes. I very much look forward to getting to know you all and serving you under the leadership of your pastor Father Nicholas Voelker. I will reside in Halstead and have my office there but I will make myself present and available to the people of both parishes. I actually have much experience with having dual or triple assignments so I am confident that this can be easily managed. I will begin my assignment with you all on June 16th of 2020.



You all are probably curious to know a little more about me and my personal history. I come from a large family of ten and grew up in Wichita until age twelve and then in Arkansas City until I was nineteen. I then briefly resided in Wichita again until I joined the seminary and studied at Conception Abby in Missouri and then Kenrick-Glennon in St. Louis. I finished my seminary studies in 2010 and was ordained a priest by Bishop Michael Jaeckels on May 29th 2010. Since then I have served in the following parishes and assignments: Blessed Sacrament, Wichita; St. Francis of Assisi, Wichita; Girard and Arma; Magdalen, Wichita; Diocesan Archives, annulment advocate, and Caldwell KS. Now I come joyfully to serve in your two communities.

As for me personally, I enjoy a range of activities and hobbies and interests. I enjoy reading philosophy and history and Church History. I love studious engagement with theology, with Pope Benedict and Thomas Aquinas as my favorite theologians. I study various languages, including Greek and Hebrew, and with that of course, Scripture study. I play board games, and also just enjoy spending time with people. Though my interests might seem obscure, if you invite me over for dinner, I'll talk about whatever you want!

I am grateful to God that he has called me to this new role and ministry. Together, Fr. Voelker and myself we work hard to serve you with all our gifts. At the same time, I am only the parochial vicar and must defer in various matters to your pastor. In these few weeks before my assignment officially begins, I will keep you and your families in my prayers!

In the Immaculate Heart,

Rev. Maximilian Biltz

Parochial Vicar of St. Mary Newton/ Sacred Heart Halstead