Dear Friends,

This Sunday we celebrate the Liturgy of Thanksgiving of Father Radmar Jao, S.J. Two weekends ago was the beautiful ordination of Fr. Radmar at St. Aloysius Church in Spokane, Washington. Bishop Cupich gave a wonderful homily on the priesthood, relating a personal story that stressed how important it is for the priest to listen to the People of God. We priests are “formed for the priesthood” but we are more importantly “formed by the priesthood”. You, the People of God, bring out the best in us. You want us to preach the Word of God with clarity and force. You want us to celebrate the sacraments with reverence and respect. You want us to be with you in “good times and bad”. You will shape Radmar’s priesthood as you have shaped mine and Fathers Don, Frank and Lloyd. God bless you, Father Radmar; you have a wonderful calling. It is also special to have your family with us as we celebrate your ordination.

Last week the staff had a day away to plan our scheduling for the next six months. Joining us was Megan Pryor Lorentz who will assume the role of Director of the Spiritual Life Center. She will begin in September and at that time she will be introduced to the parish community. Megan will be a wonderful addition. We also have been so fortunate to have Julie Benbow as interim director. Our former director, Rosemary Robinson, laid a solid foundation for both Julie and Megan.

St. Agnes is so dependent on the generosity of our parishioners. Marianne Bachleder has in the past created beautiful vestments for us. Most recently her notable talents have produced a beautiful altar cloth. Many thanks, Marianne!

I would also like to thank Herman Bracey for his generous availability to St. Agnes. Besides serving as acolyte, he is always ready to volunteer when help is needed. His generosity is exceptional.

Finally, on Gay Pride Day let me say how proud we are of our gay brothers and lesbian sisters who bring so much to our parish by their participation.

Raymond Allender, S.J.