

A Message from Your Pastor

Staying Connected and Being Present to You

Dear Parish Family,

One of the greatest blessings of being your pastor is the opportunity to walk with you through the joys, challenges, and everyday moments of life. Fr. Gabriele and I want you to know how important you are to us and how much we value being with you.

As you can imagine, parish life involves many moving parts—celebrating Mass, visiting the sick, attending meetings, preparing for liturgies, responding to messages, coordinating with a school and simply being present to the people God has entrusted to our care.

My desire is to be **more present when I am with you and more responsive when you need to reach me**. To help make that possible, I would like to establish a clearer and more consistent way for parishioners to contact me as some have been asking the best way to get in touch with me, be it by phone, text, email, through the parish secretaries, etc...

I want to make it easy for everyone, without having to go through multiple steps. Therefore, the best way to reach me is through the Parish Cell Phone (484) 541-2369. This will help me keep messages organized, make sure important needs don't get overlooked, and respond as promptly and thoughtfully as possible.

Of course, you may still call the parish office if you prefer (610) 759 – 0870 or by email: jstokes@allentowndiocese.org. Fr. Gabriele can be reached through the parish office or by his email: gdulunaqio@allentowndiocese.org.

For urgent pastoral needs, especially emergencies involving illness, hospitalization, or the need for a priest in an emergency, please call the Parish Cell Phone listed above (484-541-2369).

I also ask for your understanding that we may not always be able to respond immediately. Sometimes we are celebrating Mass, meeting with someone, or attending to another pastoral responsibility. Please know that a delayed response never means your message or concern is unimportant.

Ultimately, this is about something much more meaningful than managing phone calls, texts, or emails. **It is about making sure that when we are with you, we can truly be with you—listening, praying, and giving you our full attention.**

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and continued prayers. Fr. Gabriele and I are so blessed to be your parish priests and we look forward to finding even better ways for us to stay connected.

May God bless you and your families.

With gratitude and prayers,

Fr. Stokes