



April 7, 2026

St. Philip the Apostle Parish
312 Victoria Street
Green Bay, WI 54302-2818

Dear Parishioners of St. Philip Parish,

God's blessings to you this Easter season!

Father Juan Zarate has been a good and faithful servant as Administrator of St. Philip Parish for the past five years. He will conclude his ministry here at St. Philip as of June 30, 2026. Between now and the end of June, I know you will find ways to appropriately thank Fr. Juan for his priestly leadership at your parish.

I am also happy to share the good news of the appointments of **Father Jose Lopez Vargas** as Pastor and **Father Juan Carlos Altamirano** as Parochial Vicar of both St. Philip and Ss. Peter and Paul Parishes beginning July 1, 2026.

Father Jose was born in Jalisco, Mexico. The youngest of eleven children. He graduated from Preble High School and UWGB. He attended Saint Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee and was ordained by Bishop Ricken in 2018. After ordination he was Parochial Vicar at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Manitowoc as well as Chaplain of Roncalli High School. For the past six years, he has served at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish.

Father Juan Carlos was born in Nicaragua and came to the Appleton area in 2013 attending Fox Valley Technical College. Father Juan Carlos attended Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona, MN and Saint Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee. He was ordained by Bishop Ricken in 2024. For the past two years, he has served as Parochial Vicar at St. Pius X and St. Therese Parishes in Appleton.

As followers of Christ walking in the spirit of Romans 15:7 “**Therefore welcome one another as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God**”, please welcome Father Jose and Father Juan Carlos as we walk together as missionary disciples for the glory of God!

May the Holy Spirit bless and guide you and your families.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Tom Long
Chair, Priest Personnel Board