

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

137 West Upper Ferry Road
West Trenton, NJ 08628

July 1, 2020

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Good Counsel,

I wanted to take one more opportunity to say thank you as I depart the parish today and move to my new assignment at St. Gregory the Great in Hamilton Square. It has been a wonderful, and all too short 4 years that I have been able to spend here with you. As I said on Sunday, I know that I leave a wiser, smarter, and hopefully more faith and hope-filled priest than I was when I arrived. It is bittersweet to return to my home parish, and please pray for me as it is a large and complicated community there, with many opportunities but also many challenges.

I know that you will welcome Fr. Ariel with open arms and hearts as you did me, and this will continue to be the loving and faith-filled parish it has always been. Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to succeed and even fail as your Pastor. We tried some new things: some of which worked, others not as well, some that we are still trying to figure out. I asked for your support in a major construction project that is still ongoing, and you offered it without question. I can't wait to see the fruits of that labor as I hope the renewed space downstairs will help foster growth and activity in the parish.

Fr. Ariel will need help and guidance as he arrives as the way this parish runs with minimal staff is different than what he is used to, so please be patient with him as I know you will be. He is a very warm, spiritual, and good natured priest that I know you will love.

Please continue to pray for me as I will for you everyday, and Hamilton Square is not far away, so I hope to see you all many times in the future. God Bless You.
Our Lady of Good Counsel....pray for us

Fr. Mike

PS. After today I will no longer be accessing this email address, so please do not respond to this email (as the responses will be forwarded to the office email). I will let you know, through the rectory, when I have a parish email at St. Greg's setup if you need to get in touch with me.