

Pastoral Message to the Parishes of Christ the King, Kingstanding, Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale and St. Margaret Mary, Perry Common

Dear Parishioners,

Fr. Thé Quang Nguyen has requested the opportunity to work as a missionary priest in Taiwan. Archbishop Bernard Longley has heard this request and has granted Fr. Thé permission to be seconded to the Diocese of Chiayi in Taiwan for the next five years.

Fr Thé will therefore be leaving the parishes of Christ the King and Our Lady of the Assumption on Sunday December 14th in preparation for his departure to Taiwan. I know that he will be sadly missed by fellow clergy and parishioners within the two parishes and within the parish of St. Margaret Mary, which is part of the local cluster group of parishes working together. There will be a moment before Fr. Thé leaves for the parishes to express their gratitude for his ministry and to wish him well.

Archbishop Bernard has asked Fr. Simon Ellis to become Parish Priest of Christ the King and Our Lady of the Assumption parishes alongside his responsibilities for St. Margaret Mary parish. He is well known in the parishes, and I am sure you will give him your support as he takes up this additional pastoral ministry amongst you. He will look for your understanding and assistance and will have the support of Deacons Gary and Dominic and Fr. Leonard Cox. It is hoped that another priest will be available soon to support the work of the parishes. Please keep Fr. Simon in your prayers.

We pray for Fr. Thé as he embarks on this new stage of his ministry as a priest and we ask God's blessing on his new work in Taiwan.

+ David Evans

Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham