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Dear Friends at St. Ignatius Parish:

This week, as most of you know, Fr. Dan Sullivan left us for his new mission as senior priest at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Phoenix, where he served for many years as pastor. In addition to Fr. Dan's move, there are other changes to Jesuit staffing coming to St. Ignatius that I want to make you aware of – in a spirit of transparency.

After nine years, Father Craig Boly's mission will come to an end on January 1, 2022. Following a sabbatical, he will receive a new mission elsewhere in our Province. The Province is grateful for his years of faithful service alongside dedicated parish and school staff. We are also grateful to *you*, the people of St. Ignatius, who supported him so that he could care for his mother in her final years.

In January 2022, you will welcome a new pastor: Father Michael Moynahan, S.J. Over his career, Fr. Moynahan has taught theology, served as community rector at Gonzaga University, and recently as pastor of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Sacramento. Fr. Craig and Fr. Mike know each other well, which will ease the coming transition. Fr. Moynahan will arrive in Portland at the end of August and have a chance to meet parishioners, school faculty and families in early fall, before taking a break until sometime in December – when he will land among you for good.

Finally, the Province is grateful for the love and support you have given Father Billy Biegler this past year. Despite this pandemic, Fr. Billy bounded to work celebrating your masses, hearing confessions, anointing the sick and nourishing all of us with his homilies and humor. He helped give retreats at the parish and at Jesuit High School. He is a natural with young people. In light of this and given our need for good teachers and school leaders, Fr. Billy is being given a new mission this summer: to teach in a Jesuit high school in the West. He will be with you through the end of July, and I know will be greatly missed. Nor will you soon forget him.

At this point, the Province is still exploring possible options for another priest to replace Fr. Billy as associate pastor. We hope to be able to identify this Jesuit before too long.

Friends, these changes come as we are beginning to see a glimmer of light at the end of the pandemic tunnel. I hope and pray that we can soon celebrate more fully as a community together. We are at our best when we can honor all these goodbyes and welcomes with Eucharist together and a potluck or picnic after. May that day come soon! In the meantime, you have my prayers and gratitude for continuing to be a beacon of hope for our neighbors in South East Portland and across the metropolitan region.

Rev. Chris Weekly, S.J.  
Provincial Assistant for Pastoral Ministries