

Welcome Father Michael Hendershott!



We are overjoyed to welcome Father Michael Hendershott as our new Parochial Vicar here at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Pigeon Forge!

Father Hendershott was born in Johnson City, Tennessee, and grew up in Farragut with his five sisters and two brothers. His home parish was St. John Neumann Catholic Church. In the Fall of 2007, he entered seminary for the Diocese of Knoxville and studied philosophy at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia, earning his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. He later continued his theological studies at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis and the Pontifical North American College in Rome, where he received both a Bachelor of Sacred Theology (S.T.B.) and a Licentiate of Sacred Theology (S.T.L.) with a specialization in Dogmatic Theology.

Ordained a priest on June 27, 2015, the feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Father Hendershott has faithfully served the Church in many ways: at the Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, as a teacher and chaplain at Knoxville Catholic High School, as Parochial Vicar at Holy Ghost in Knoxville, and most recently at the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Chattanooga, where he also ministered as chaplain to the Catholic Student Center at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Now, with joy and gratitude, we welcome him to Holy Cross Parish. We are excited for his ministry among us and look forward to growing together in faith under his guidance and pastoral care.

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Father Hendershott!