



My very dear friends,

I am well on my way to recovery after intensive open-heart surgery, and I am sure that much of that is due to the prayers you offer for me. I write to tell you that I have been reassigned temporarily to the Oblate residence in Childs, Maryland to continue my journey to full health. There will be other ministry opportunities available to me when I am ready. I have loved every minute of the 20 years I have spent on the Outer Banks as Pastor of Holy Redeemer by the Sea Parish. I leave knowing I will miss you all very much, but my love and prayers for you will continue for every day that God grants me on this earth. This surgery is something I didn't plan on. I am thankful for my doctors who spotted this heart trouble before I had a massive heart attack. I know my time at the Childs Oblate Community will help me recover and consider future ministry opportunities. I am sure your new Pastor, Father John Hanley, will shepherd you with wisdom and love, and that the Parish Staff and Councils will support him as they have me. I look forward to returning to visit as soon as I am able, to say good-bye and thank you in person. Until then, I pray for you daily, and I ask God to give us all the grace to embrace and live fully the 'Present Moments' that come our way. I hope you will continue to keep me in your prayers and to remember fondly the years we have shared.

Yours in Christ

Father Bill Walsh, osfs