



***Get to know  
our next 'Pastor'***

## **Fr. Bill McNeeley**

Fr. Bill McNeeley grew up in Norris, TN. Before entering seminary, he served in the United States Navy and earned a bachelor's degree at UT Chattanooga. He and his wife Sherri were married in 1980 and are the parents of three grown children and four grandchildren. In 1985 he received a Master of Divinity degree and was ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church.

In October 2000, he resigned from his parish in middle Tennessee and moved his family home to Knoxville. He was received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil in 2001. Over the next several years, he continued his studies and pursued the "Pastoral Provision," a process for ordained ministers of protestant churches to be reconciled with the Catholic Church. Finally, on March 21, 2005, his petition for ordination was presented by Cardinal Ratzinger to St. John Paul II on their last work session before the Holy Father died. The petition was approved, and Fr. Bill was ordained a Catholic priest on June 3, 2007.

Since then, he has served in several parishes in the Knoxville area, most recently as pastor of Holy Ghost Church in Knoxville.