

FAITHFUL SERVANTS

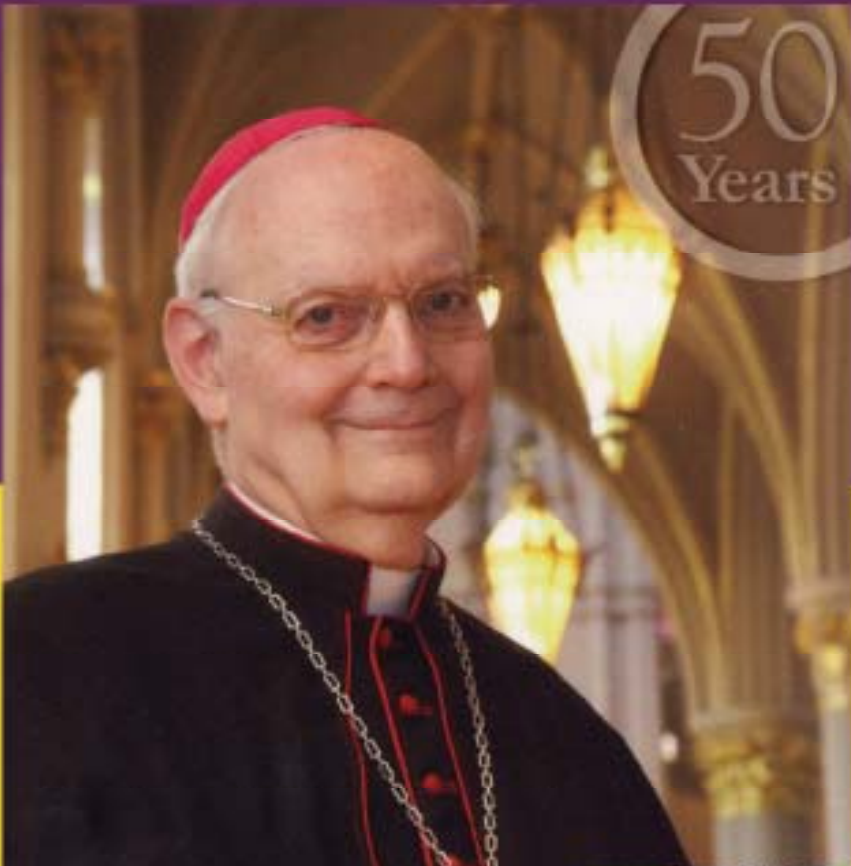
SPECIAL EDITION OF **FaithLife** NEWS BULLETIN - AUGUST 26, 2012
HONORING JUBILEE ANNIVERSARIES IN THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

“I am the **light** of the world.
Whoever follows me
will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of **life**.”
John 8:12





Our prayers and gratitude are with you **Most Reverend Donald W. Trautman** on your 50th Anniversary.



With the establishment of **The Bishop Donald W. Trautman Feed My Sheep Endowment Fund** at The Catholic Foundation, the Bishop has especially embraced those who are **struggling** due to spiritual and material poverty. This fund also **gives youth vital experiences** in faith formation.

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In Honor of: Most Reverend Donald W. Trautman

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Thank you!



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Faithful Servants

The Diocese of Erie is grateful to the men and women featured in this publication for their inspiration, dedication and ongoing service. May God continue to bless you.

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'I have chosen you'

Dear sisters, deacons, fathers and Monsignors,
It is my great joy to be among those of you
who are celebrating jubilee years in 2012.

I know we all treasure Christ's words to us:
"You have not chosen me, I have chosen you."

These words reflect Christ's love and his mysterious choice and courage in selecting us. The words, "Come, follow me" were addressed to his chosen disciples. He invited them to a closer, more intimate bond. As clergy and vowed religious women, we have been chosen to share more directly and personally in Christ's life and in his church's life.

A vocation to follow Christ to the religious life is a mysterious call. We all hear Jesus' voice in different ways, in different settings, at different ages. Sometimes the voice of the Lord is heard through others, like St. Paul in Damascus, hearing God's call when his sight was restored by Ananias. Sometimes the voice of the Lord calls directly—it's an inner, persistent encounter of God's grace we can't avoid. It is a joy and an encouragement for all of us to read about how the Lord called each of us in the stories found in this issue of *Faithful Servants*.

Surrendering to Christ's call is a life-changing event. Happily, although we surrender much, we gain more. We gain a union with the Son of God. That is

such fruit for time and eternity!

Why did the Lord call us? What caused us to leave all and follow the Lord? It is a free choice of Christ's love. St. Paul understood this and said of his own vocation, "Through no merit of mine, Christ has lavished his grace upon me." None of us deserves to

be singled out for this special calling to serve at the side of Christ.

Can there be a greater purpose than to serve as a co-worker of Christ? Can there be a greater honor than to dedicate our God-given gifts and talents to help God's people and bring them closer to the Savior? Can there be a higher task than to be devoted to Christ's church and his people for 25, 50, 60 years and more? I honor you all for the compassion and commitment you have shown in your lives.

Christ summed up his own ministry in one sentence when he said, "I have come that you may have life and have it more abundantly." Each jubilarian can sum up his or her life in the same way. How blessed is this diocese because of you! May we continue to rejoice and give thanks and find fulfillment in Christ's words, "You did not choose me but I chose you."



Sincerely in Christ,

Donald W. Trautman

Most Reverend Donald W. Trautman
Bishop of Erie

Congratulations Bis

We honor and thank you for your
outstanding service to our diocese.

Our Lady, Queen of the Americas, Conneaut Lake
St. Eusebius, East Brady
St. Richard, Rimersburg
Your Devoted Carmelites
St. Mark, Emporium
Immaculate Conception Parish and School, Clarion
St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Erie

Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek
St. Francis, Clearfield
St. Mary, Crown
St. Ann, Marienville
Good Shepherd, West Middlesboro
Immaculate Conception, Brookville
St. Dominic, Sigel

Rev. Msgr. Salvatore Mitchell

Msgr. Salvatore Mitchell became a pastor for the first time in 1955—an assignment that seemed “overwhelming” at the time, he says.

At age 38, then-Father Mitchell was named the founding pastor of Church of the Good Shepherd in West Middlesex. From 1866 to 1955, Catholics in West Middlesex attended services in nearby Sharon or Farrell because they did not have their own church.

Msgr. Mitchell’s first task was to lay the groundwork for the new parish. He served the faith community for 36 years until his retirement in 1991. Today, Good Shepherd thrives with more than 550 registered families.

“The biggest joy of my priesthood was establishing that parish community,” he says. “The dedication of the church was such a thrill.”

A native of Sacred Heart Parish in Sharon, he attributes his experiences at his home parish and his Catholic schooling at Sacred Heart and later Cathedral Prep in Erie to his call to the priesthood.

Shortly after his ordination in 1942, Msgr. Mitchell was called to serve as a Navy chaplain during World War II.

“I got to travel and meet all sorts of people, and it was a constant change of venue,” he says of that time.

After eight weeks of training, he was assigned as a port chaplain in California. Then from 1944-46, he served as chaplain on the island of Okinawa, off the coast of Japan. It was

there that Msgr. Mitchell oversaw his first construction project. The Marines built a chapel in Okinawa, which included an image of Christ as the Good Shepherd on the door. Later, when he was asked to build the parish community in West Middlesex, he knew immediately what the church would be called.

“The Good Shepherd has always been close to me,” Msgr. Mitchell says.

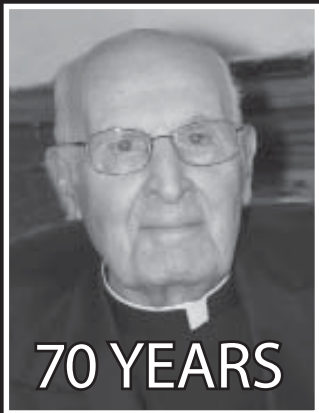
Later, he also served as chaplain of the Veterans’ Administrative Hospital in Erie.

In 1970, Msgr. Mitchell was asked to take on another building challenge. Under diocesan sponsorship and his supervision, the John XXIII Home nursing care facility was built in Hermitage to serve the Shenango Valley—the area where he has spent most of his life.

At 95, Msgr. Mitchell resides in an apartment on the John XXIII Home campus. He continues to celebrate Mass at area churches, including Our Lady of Fatima-St. Ann Parish in Farrell on Sundays.

Msgr. Mitchell is also a supporter of Glenmary Home Missioners, a Catholic society of priests and brothers who, along with co-workers, are dedicated to establishing a Catholic presence in rural areas and small towns in the United States where the Catholic Church is not effectively present.

“As a founding pastor, I have empathy for them,” Msgr. Mitchell says. “I understand what the missioners go through, and I’ve felt a lot of the similarities.”



Pastor:

- Good Shepherd, West Middlesex

Parochial vicar:

- St. Boniface, Erie
- St. Joseph, Erie
- St. Joseph, Oil City
- Holy Redeemer, Warren

Retirement:

- John XXIII Home, Hermitage

My Inspiration: “I find spiritual refreshment in the Psalms. ‘God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in distress.’ (Psalm 46:2) That’s what I depend on. Trust in the Lord, and the Lord will provide.”

**THE PEOPLE OF
ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST PARISH
IN ERIE**

PRAYERFULLY ASK GOD’S BLESSING ON

MOST REV. BISHOP DONALD W. TRAUTMAN

REV. MSGR. ROBERT G. BARCIO

REV. BRANDON M. KLECKNER

AND ALL JUBILARIANS WHOSE FESTIVAL YEAR IS 2012.

**MAY GOD CONTINUE TO ENRICH YOU WHO, IN TURN,
ENRICH OUR DIOCESE.**

**MSGR. DANIEL K. ARNOLD
PASTOR**



Rev. Msgr. James W. Peterson

Faithful Servants, August 26, 2012

5

"If this is the work God wants, he will supply what I need."

Those were Msgr. James Peterson's words when he began Maria House Projects, which provides housing, second chances and a taste of community life for men looking to rebound from alcohol or drug addiction and in many instances time in prison.

He has headed Maria House Projects since he founded the ministry in the early 1970s. He has worked as a counselor for people who are homeless and those struggling with addictions.

"God is provident," says Msgr. Peterson, better known to many simply as Father Pete. "When people become aware of the love God has for them, they find meaning in their lives."

The men who reside at the Diocesan Lodge in rural Spartansburg form a family through prayer and gradually find joy, he says.

"Every week at the Lodge we have a Mass at 12:30, and the singing is just beautiful," Msgr. Peterson says.

He calls Maria House Projects "a healing community directed at Life in the Spirit." One of the greatest involvements that he has is leading people to Christ.

"Many times they come here looking for something spiritual," Msgr. Peterson says. "And they're not quite sure what that means. Maybe they have been through any number of rehabs or stayed straight for a month or two. But they have not been aware of God's love."

A good percentage of Lodge residents manage to stay on track. Even though some go back to their old ways, Msgr. Peterson says they'll never be the same.

"With the glimpse that he's had, he has some respect for God and for women

and for life," he says. "He's got something to live for and toward."

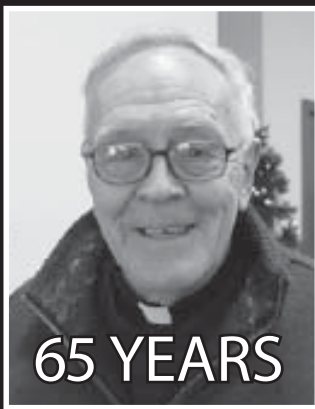
Msgr. Peterson taught at Gannon University in Erie for 28 years (1947-75). There he helped establish the Theology Department and served as campus minister.

"The Spirit was alive there," he says fondly. "I was always preaching in the classroom to get people interested."

He notes that he's also enjoyed his parish work.

"I loved the years at St. Teresa of Avila (in Union City) very much," he says.

A popular speaker, retreat master and spiritual director, Msgr. Peterson is also an avid writer. He has published numerous books including, "More I Could Not Ask," which details his prison ministry, and "The Poetry of the Beginning." He has also served as a featured columnist in the *Lake Shore Visitor*.



Pastor:

- St. Teresa of Avila, Union City

Parochial vicar:

- Blessed Sacrament, Erie

Faculty:

- Gannon University, Erie

Parochial administrator:

- St. Stephen, Erie

Priest in residence:

- St. Stephen, Erie

Sacramental assistant:

- Our Lady of Fatima, Canadohta Lake

- Immaculate Conception, Mageetown

- SCI Albion

Chaplain:

- Carmel of the Holy Family Monastery, Erie

- Erie County Prison

Diocese of Erie:

- Office of Special Ministries

- Maria House Projects, founder

- Catholic Charities, counselor

- Catholic Social Services, counselor

- Vocation Office, director

- Delegate for religious women

My Inspiration: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment, and so one who fears is not yet perfect in love." – 1 John 4:18



Congratulations on 65 years, Msgr. James W. Peterson!

• • • • • St. Teresa of Avila, Union City

• • • • • Our Lady of Fatima, Canadohta Lake



**Thank you
for your service
to our parishes!**

Rev. Msgr. Robert G. Barcio

Msgr. Robert Barcio has always had a love of history. “From the very beginning, even in high school, the Lord was leading me toward history,” says Msgr. Barcio, a native of Sacred Heart Parish in Erie. “I always got high marks in history—at the head of the class. In the seminary, it was the same story. I wouldn’t make the first-ten list in any of the other subjects, but I always made it in history.”

The theme of history has been woven throughout his 65-year priesthood. He taught American history at Cathedral Prep in Erie before moving to Gannon College (now Gannon University) where he served as a professor and chairman of the History Department.

In 1986, he was named diocesan historian and archivist. He then began work on chronicling the history of the Diocese of Erie. The result was a trilogy of books. The first volume, “Cathedral in the Wilderness,” focused on diocesan history from 1853-1920 and was published in 1991.

“It was inspiring to research the early history of the clergy and religious who struggled to lay the foundation of faith here,” Msgr. Barcio says.

The second volume, “That You Love One Another—The Life and Times of Archbishop John Mark Gannon,” which focuses on the years 1920-66, was published in 1996.

“Shepherds and Sheep,” the third volume, delves into the history of the diocese’s parishes. It was published in 2002.

In 2003, he published a “Pictorial History of the Diocese of Erie 1853-2003” to mark the diocese’s sesquicentennial anniversary. He also co-authored a history of Gannon University titled “Education on the Square.”

During his first priestly assignment as parochial vicar at Holy Rosary Parish in Erie, Msgr. Barcio got into parochial athletics.

“I really enjoyed that,” he says.

At St. John the Baptist Parish in Erie, he served as athletic director and boys’ activities director. His teams won a number of championships in the Parochial League.

While he was at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Erie, the boys’ basketball team won the state championship in 1974.

“St. John beat us the first time on our court,” Msgr. Barcio recalls. “We went over to St. John’s and beat them on their court. Then we had a playoff at Gannon, and the place was packed. We beat St. John’s at Gannon and went on and won state. I’ll never forget it.”

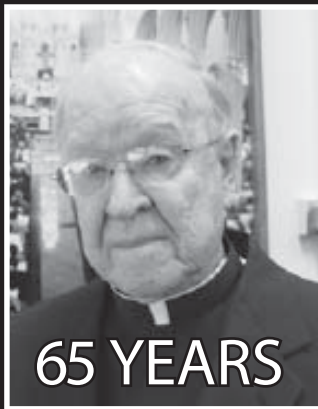
For 11 years, he served as pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Clearfield.

During his tenure, he renovated the church, built a new rectory and parish office complex and added a cafeteria and library to the school, as well as put on a new roof. He also oversaw the construction of a chapel at Calvary Cemetery in Clearfield.

He’s appreciative that his sister, Betty Weaver, has been part of the faith communities of his many parish settings over the years. He still sees her each week.

As a retired priest in residence at St. Peter Cathedral, he still celebrates Mass every day.

“I’ve enjoyed every assignment I’ve had,” Msgr. Barcio says. “I’ve had a blessed priesthood, really.”



Pastor:

- St. Mark the Evangelist, Erie
- St. Francis of Assisi, Clearfield

Parochial vicar:

- Holy Rosary, Erie

Secondary education:

- Cathedral Prep, Erie

Higher education:

- Gannon University, Erie

Sacramental assistant:

- St. John the Baptist, Erie
- Blessed Sacrament, Erie
- St. Jude the Apostle, Erie
- St. Luke, Erie

Priest in residence:

- St. Peter Cathedral, Erie

Diocese of Erie:

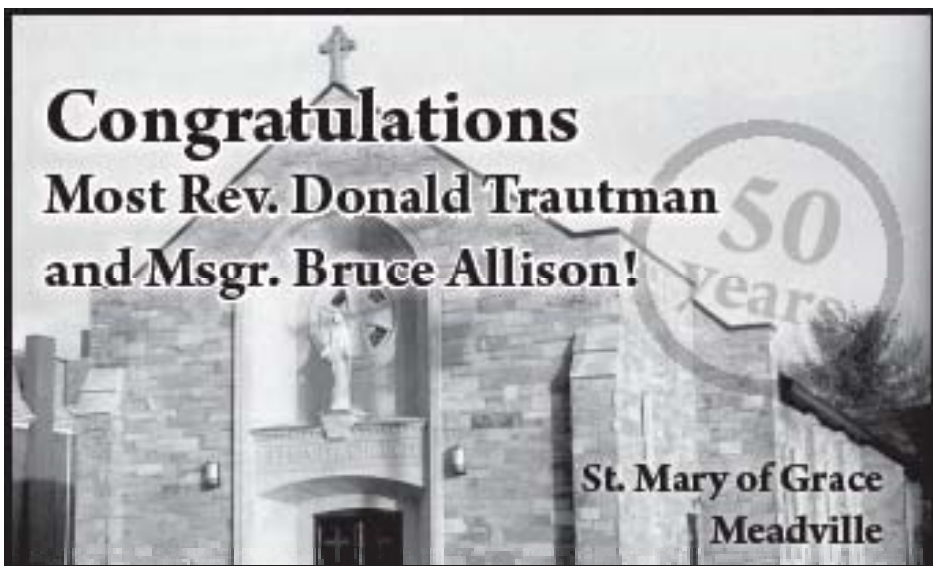
- Historian and archivist

MyInspiration: “The Psalm of the Good Shepherd (Psalm 23) is a terrific image of the priesthood and its goals.”

**Thank you for your service.
You’ve changed the lives of many.**

Msgr. Bruce R. Allison, Parochial Vicar (50 yrs)
Msgr. Robert G. Barcio, Weekend Assistant (65 yrs)
Sr. Bernadette Bell, R.S.M., Principal (60 yrs)
Sr. Teresa Okonski, R.S.M., Teacher (50 yrs)

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Sr. Bernadette Bell, R.S.M.

Taught by the Benedictines at St. Joseph Grade School in Sharon and attending their summer programs at Camp Glinodo in Erie, Sister Bernadette Bell, RSM, knew early on she wanted to become a religious.

She even considered missionary work with the Maryknoll order, but she entered Mercyhurst College (now Mercyhurst University) in 1949 and came under the guidance of Sister Margaret Loesch, RSM. In her own words, she was “influenced by the Sisters of Mercy who were so present to the students in so many ways, through them, I began to realize this was the life for me.”

And what an accumulation of memories she’s gathered over the past 60 years. “My ministry has always been connected with education,” Sister Bernadette says.

She taught in elementary, secondary and college education, served in administration and as diocesan school supervisor.

Sister Bernadette eventually became regional director for elementary schools in the Catholic Schools Office in Boston, Mass. This was a favorite ministry as it gave her a great opportunity to work with so many diverse cultures.

Prior to the merging of Mercy communities into the New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community in 2008, she was in community leadership for 11 years.

“Living in community (provides) opportunities for praying together, sup-

porting one another and just being present ... I have had several opportunities to serve others whether in ministry or on a daily basis,” she says.

Presently, she serves as the local development coordinator for the New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community and house coordinator for the Erie mother-house.

Post graduate studies earned her a master’s degree from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, with additional graduate studies at Boston College; Carlow University, Pittsburgh; Edinboro University; Gannon University; and The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Active in numerous professional organizations and ministry boards, she was named Diocesan Woman Religious of the Year by the Serra Club of Erie and in 2012 was honored among Women Making History.

Sister Bernadette takes great pride in her New England Irish Catholic parents. “They not only taught me my religion, but practiced themselves what they expected of us,” she says. “Ours was a close-knit family, always involved in our activities, our education and our community.”

Her hobbies of genealogy, scrapbooking, quilting for generations of nieces and nephews, reading and traveling grew from that family core.



60 YEARS

Teacher:

- St. Titus, Titusville
- St. Catherine of Siena, DuBois
- St. Justin, Pittsburgh

Principal:

- St. Luke, Erie
- St. George, Erie

Faculty:

- Mercyhurst University, Erie

Director/supervisor:

- Head Start, Erie
 - Supervisor of schools, dioceses of Erie and Pittsburgh
 - Catholic Schools Office, Archdiocese of Boston
- ### Sisters of Mercy:
- President, regional community of Erie
 - Vice president, regional community of Erie
 - House coordinator, Erie
 - Erie development director

My Inspiration:

“Our hearts can always be in the same place, centered in God.”
– Catherine McAuley, Sisters of Mercy founder

Sister Mary Paul Carioty, RSM, has a special love for the poor and homeless because she lived it as a teenager in her native Rochester, N.Y.

Raised in a strong Greek Orthodox family, her decision to become a Catholic at age 16 and attend Our Lady of Mercy High School led her mother to say that if she went through the front door to attend the Catholic high school, she could not come back.

“God told me to go out that door,” she says.

While the Sisters of Mercy at the high school were unaware of her homelessness, they knew of her parents’ opposition to her attending the Catholic high school and provided for her tuition and supplies. Sister Mary Paul depended on the generosity of friends and other means for her lodging and meals. She graduated and worked at Strong Memorial Hospital for a few years as a floor clerk and nurse’s aide before entering the Sisters of Mercy in Titusville on Aug. 15, 1952. Final vows came six years later.

She eventually reconciled with her parents, who divorced while she was in high school. As a Sister of Mercy, Sister Mary Paul was an elementary school teacher and became a licensed practical nurse and later a registered nurse. She worked in area hospitals, an African health clinic and a health clinic for the homeless in Washington, D.C.

“We served 1,500 men and 150 women who lived in the shelter and anyone who came in off the streets,” she recalls.

Looking back at her ministry, she says her experience led her to want to minister to the sick, poor and homeless and teach, especially the children of divorced parents. She is grateful for the support and friendship of her community.

And as she reviews her life, she continues to focus on the motto that is written on the inside of her ring given to her when she professed final vows, “By the grace of God I am what I am.”

Sr. Mary Paul Carioty, R.S.M.

60 YEARS



Teacher:

- St. George, Erie
- St. Walburga, Titusville
- St. Justine, Pittsburgh

Nurse:

- DuBois Hospital (now DuBois Regional Medical Center)
- Emergency room, Hamot Medical Center (now UPMC Hamot)
- Obstetrics and emergency services for the sick and poor at a primary health care clinic, Ethiopia, Africa
- Homeless shelter medical clinic, Washington, D.C.

Receptionist:

- Mercyhurst University, residence hall

My Inspiration: “Both in life and in death, I am the Lord’s.”
– Romans 14:8

Congratulations

From The Board of Trustees, Alumni, Faculty, Staff and Students of Gannon University, Our Sincere Thank You for Your Years of Service to Faith and Community.

60 Years

Sr. Mary Louis Eichenlaub, O.S.B. '55VMC
Sr. Ann Patrice Murnock, S.S.J. '64VMC
Sr. Cecilia Sullivan, O.S.B. '46VMC
Sr. Mary Arnold Tann, S.S.J. '62VMC
Sr. Marilyn Terwilliger, S.S.J. '64VMC
Sr. Ricarda Vincent, S.S.J. '64VMC

50 Years

Rev. Msgr. Bruce R. Allison '71
Rev. Msgr. William E. Biebel '57
Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, S.T.D., S.S.L.
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

40 Years

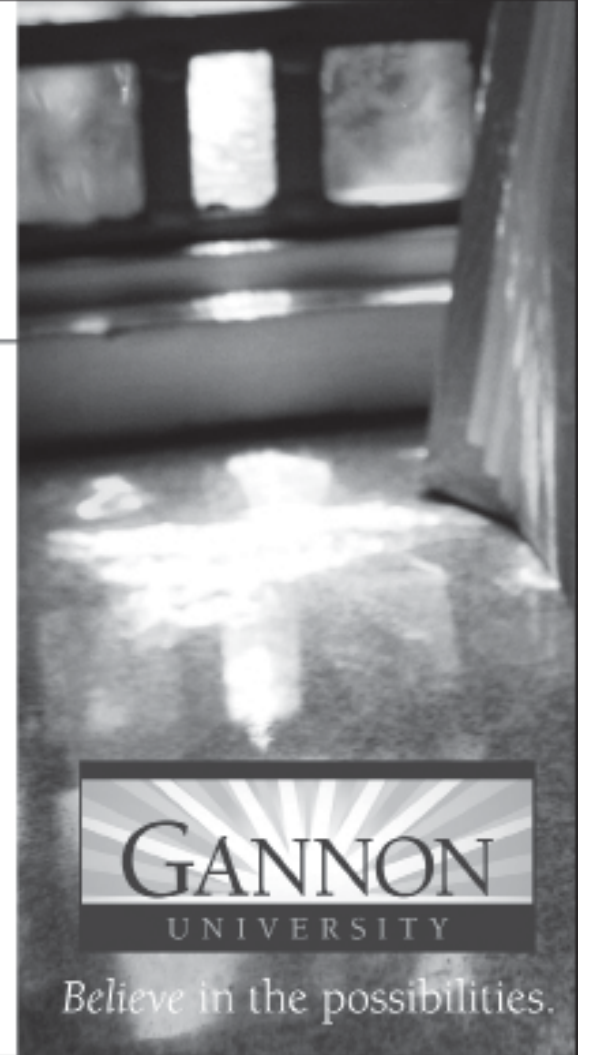
Rev. Dennis C. Hadberg '67
Rev. Msgr. Charles A. Kaza, V.G. '66

25 Years

Rev. Scott P. Detisch '82
Rev. Mark J. Mastrian '82
Very Rev. Philip Pinczewski, V.E. '82
Rev. Thomas J. Whitman '82

Permanent Deacons, 10 years

Deacon William Brown '75
Deacon Dennis Kudlak '73



Congratulations, Monsignor William Biebel



...With much love and gratitude for many years of weddings, baptisms, communions and funerals...and most of all for your kindness, friendship and guidance.

You have been a blessing and inspiration to our family.

Mark ("Dave"), Kirsten and Christopher McCain and Family

Sr. Kathryn Connolly, S.S.J.

Sister Kathryn Connolly, SSJ, first heard the call to religious life when she was in seventh grade at St. Joseph School in Erie.

“Sister Regina Marie Wagener, SSJ, encouraged me to become a sister,” Sister Kathryn recalls. “She was very kind and helped me to think deeply about becoming a sister for a long time—all through high school, college and throughout my working life.”

Sister Kathryn became a Sister of St. Joseph at age 29, but she says she had thought about it for many years. Her parents played a major role in teaching her to love God. Their influence taught her to become involved in parish life. At St. Joseph in Erie, she belonged to the sodality, helped supervise Friday night dances and later joined the Mission Club and the Erie District Sodality Union. She attended Sunday Mass with her family and later began going to daily Mass.

A native of Corry, Sister Kathryn graduated from Mercyhurst Seminary (now Mercyhurst Preparatory School) in Erie. She studied at Boston College’s School of Social Work and earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Mercyhurst College (now Mercyhurst University). She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1952, made her first profession in 1955 and her final profession in 1957.

After teaching early in her religious life, Sister Kathryn became involved in social ministry. She was director of social services at Saint Vincent Health Center in Erie for seven years before becoming a caseworker at Catholic Social Services, now Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Services.

At Saint Mary’s Home of Erie, she ministered as a social worker before working in the activities department. She retired from active ministry in 2011.

Over the years, Sister Kathryn says she has been guided by the faith of many people, including all clergy.

“I am touched by St. Therese of the Little Flower because of the way she lived her life,” she says.



60 YEARS

My Inspiration: “All liturgies from Mass inspire me because our Lord is consecrated in the bread and wine at Mass and it becomes the body and blood of Christ.”

Teacher:

- St. Andrew, Erie
- St. Peter Cathedral, Erie
- Blessed Sacrament, Erie

Saint Vincent Health Center, Erie:

- Director of social services
- Orientation

Saint Mary’s Home of Erie:

- Social worker
- Pastoral care
- Activities department

Caseworker:

- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Erie

Sr. Mary Felice Duska, R.S.M.

Teaching, music, parish ministry, leadership and managing a senior citizen apartment complex have all been ministries to which Sister Mary Felice Duska, RSM, has been called during her 60 years of religious life.

“Each place where I ministered and each capacity in which I served seemed to be the place where I should be working with the sisters, students and families at that time in my life,” Sister Felice says. “Perhaps this is the concept or the result of living in the present moment.”

She is the executive director of Mercy Terrace Apartments in Erie where she has served since 1996.

A native of Holy Family Parish in Erie, she attended Mercyhurst Seminary, (now Mercyhurst Prep), which is where she met the Sisters of Mercy whose example would lead her to religious life. She says the late Sister Mary Andre Ahearn, RSM, was a great influence on her.

“She was the ideal and inspiration for my vocation,” Sister Felice recalls. “She was my teacher, my friend and in the early days of my religious life, my mentor and living companion. Now, I often seek her intercession.”

Sister Felice entered the Sisters of Mercy at Titusville on Aug. 15, 1952 and made her final profession of vows on July 31, 1958. She holds a master’s degree in music education from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, and attended leadership training workshops at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind. She continued to study music by participating in various pedagogy seminars in Pittsburgh and liturgical choral conferences sponsored by the National Pastoral Musicians Association (NPM).

Over the years, she taught piano and directed choirs in schools, parishes and at the Sisters of Mercy motherhouse.

“God and community are my treasure and my heart is there,” she says.



60 YEARS

My Inspiration: “Remember, where your treasure is, there your heart is also.”
– Matthew 6:2

Teacher:

- St. Catherine of Siena, DuBois
- St. Titus, Titusville
- St. Michael, Greenville

Piano teacher:

- St. Patrick, Franklin
- St. Catherine of Siena, DuBois
- St. Michael, Greenville
- St. Justin, Pittsburgh

Choir director:

- St. Patrick, Franklin
- St. Catherine of Siena, DuBois
- St. Michael, Greenville

Pastoral assistant:

- St. Patrick, Franklin

Sisters of Mercy:

- Leadership team, regional community of Erie
- Mercy Terrace Apartments, executive director

Sr. Mary Louis Eichenlaub, O.S.B.

Sister Mary Louis Eichenlaub, OSB, has spent much of her 60 years as a Benedictine Sister of Erie devoted to education and pastoral ministry. She found her niche and spent more than 25 years teaching at the secondary level.

"Teaching for me was an absolute joy," says Sister Mary Louis, who still refers to her graduates as "my kids." Twenty of her 25 years in teaching were spent at the former St. Benedict Academy in Erie. She still keeps in touch with many of the alumnae.

"The alums have really stayed close to the sisters, and that's wonderful," she says. "They have made the Mount (St. Benedict Monastery) their center now. They are doing beautiful things for people in need."

She's proud of the way SBA grads have shared a great deal with the children at Sister Gus' Kids Café, an outreach of Emmaus Ministries that provides a home-cooked meal and recreational opportunities to 70 children each day, and so many others.

For 14 years, Sister Mary Louis served as a pastoral minister at her home parish of St. Mary (now St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception) in Erie.

"That time was such a blessing," she recalls.

She worked for many years in public relations for the Benedictine Sisters of Erie and social services. When she was called to pastoral ministry for the aging, she says she was challenged to use her energies more directly by responding to the needs she personally witnessed while at St. Mary Parish.

Sister Mary Louis then resumed teaching English at St. Benedict Education Center in Erie for a number of years.

A passionate advocate for ecumenism in the church, she served as a member of the board of directors for Inter-Church Ministries of Northwest Pennsylvania.

In 2008, Sister Mary Louis took up the ministry of prayer and presence at Mount St. Benedict.

"God is ever patient with me," she says. "At times, even now, I am overwhelmed by the fullness of God's love. I pray that I might continue to live into loving so that I can spread God's love to others."

Sister Mary Louis says her jubilee is a celebration of God's patience and love

for her and she hopes it will help serve as an example of religious life for the church and community.

"Religious life is a very fine statement for people of the world, not just Catholics," she says. "It can serve a lot of good for the world."



60 YEARS

Elementary teacher:

- St. Mary, Erie

Secondary teacher:

- St. Benedict Academy, Erie
- St. Joseph High School, Oil City
- Venango Christian High School, Oil City

Social services:

- St. Joseph Apartments, Erie

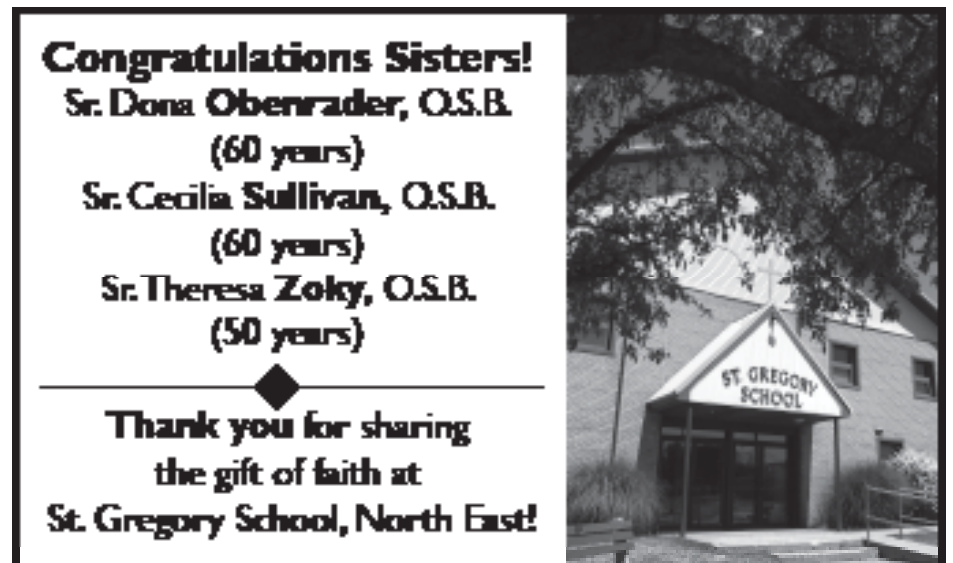
Pastoral ministry:

- St. Mary, Erie

Benedictine Sisters of Erie:

- Community public relations

My Inspiration: "Uphold me, O God, according to your words and I shall live; do not fail me in my hope." – Psalm 119



Rev. Msgr. Charles S. Murcko

Reflecting on his ministry, Msgr. Charles Murcko says he is reminded of his desire to become a priest from the time he was a teenager.

He credits his parents with helping to foster his vocation.

"I always felt our home was a little chapel," Msgr. Murcko states. "We prayed together as a family. We recited the rosary, prayed the Stations of the Cross during Lent and we would even sing."

Assisting at Mass and during the devotions of his home parish of St. Ann in Farrell was a way of life, according to Msgr. Murcko.

"I was very much attracted to the Mass and prayed that God would give me the grace to become a priest," he says.

This became a reality during a parish novena to St. Ann. After hearing a sermon preached by a Dominican father, he decided to become a priest. The missionary advised him to see Archbishop John Mark Gannon who then directed him to begin studies for the priesthood.

A former pastor of five parishes, Msgr. Murcko retired from active ministry in 1999. Since his retirement, he has served as a chaplain at SCI Mercer and John XXIII Home in Hermitage, where he currently resides.



60 YEARS

Pastor:

- Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mercer
- St. Ann, Farrell
- St. Adalbert, Sharon
- St. Boniface, Erie
- Sacred Heart, Houtzdale

Parochial administrator:

- St. Ann, Farrell
- Sacred Heart, Houtzdale

Parochial vicar:

- Sacred Heart, Houtzdale

- Sacred Heart, Erie

Chaplain:

- John XXIII Home, Hermitage
- SCI Mercer
- Saint Vincent Health Center, Erie
- Ladies Retreat League, Mercer County

Diocese of Erie:

- Marriage Tribunal
- Permanent Diaconate Formation Program

Vocations committee:

- Clearfield County

My Inspiration: "The scene from the Gospel of Luke (Luke 23:42-43) when the good thief asked our Lord to remember him in paradise. Jesus, with all his love, said to him, '...today you will be with me in Paradise.'"

Warmest congratulations to all Jubilarians, especially:



Msgr. Robert Malene & Msgr. Charles Murcko

Christ the King Houtzdale

CONGRATULATIONS

ESPECIALLY...

MSGR. JAMES PETERSON
MSGR. ROBERT G. BARCIO
FR. DENNIS C. HADBERG
DEACON DENNIS KUDLAK
SR. KATHRYN CONNOLLY, S.S.J.
SR. MARY ARNOLD TANN, S.S.J.
SR. RICARDA VINCENT, S.S.J.

- BLESSED SACRAMENT, ERIE

TO ALL JUBILIANS!

We celebrate a "Sto Lat and a Half" of priesthood:

60 years - Rev. Msgr. Charles Murcko
(Pastor - 1978-1984)

40 years - Rev. Dennis Hadberg
(Pastor - 1986-1990)

+ 50 years - Most Rev. Donald Trautman

150 years (in Polish "sto lat" means "100 years")

**Congratulations. Thank you.
Dziękujemy bardzo.**

*St. Adalbert Parish
Established 1913*



"Feed my sheep."

"Pasi ovce Moje." (Croatian)
"Hüte Meine Schafe." (German)

For 50 years as a priest and a bishop, Most Rev. Donald Trautman has lived his motto. Congratulations. Thank you. Hvala Vam. Danke schön.

*St. Anthony Parish
Established 1924
804 Idaho Street
Sharon, Pennsylvania 16146*





Our Staff, Residents and Board of Directors express their sincere congratulations and appreciation for the Love, Dedication, Leadership and Compassion you have provided over the years. You have been and will always be, a significant part of John XXIII Home!

Msgr. Salvatore Mitchell - 70 years

Msgr. Charles Murcko - 60 years

Sr. Cecilia Sullivan, O.S.B. - 60 years

Thank you for making a difference!

Sr. Ann Patrice Murnock, S.S.J.

Sister Ann Patrice Murnock, SSJ, came from a large family where the Catholic faith played a central role.

Daily Mass and recitations of the rosary were the foundation of her early days. She cites her father as well as her sisters and brothers, as major influences in her life.

She became involved with the Sisters of St. Joseph and the children at St. Joseph's Orphanage as a Scout leader.

"Entering the Sisters of St. Joseph was my way of making God an even bigger part of my life," Sister Ann Patrice says. "I relied on the Holy Spirit and my prayers were answered."

A native of St. Michael Parish in Forest City, she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1953. She made her first profession in 1955 and her final profession in 1958. A graduate of Forest City High School, Sister Ann Patrice received her bachelor's degree in business from Villa Maria College in Erie.

Her years of service in education and health care contributed to carrying out her mission, she says.

A longtime teacher at diocesan schools, Sister Ann Patrice also taught religious education at the Mercer County Catholic Center. She transitioned to health care, ministering at Spencer Hospital (now Meadville Medical Center) and Saint Vincent Health Center in Erie.

She retired from Saint Vincent in 2000 and resides at the Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center in Erie.



60 YEARS

Teacher:

- St. Paul, Erie
- St. Leo, Ridgway
- St. Andrew, Erie
- St. Ann, Erie

Religious education:

- Mercer County Catholic Center, Mercer

Office Manager:

- Spencer Hospital, Meadville

Senior office clerk:

- Saint Vincent Health Center, Erie

Sisters of St. Joseph:

- Financial officer

My Inspiration: "My spiritual reading books and my Bible prepare me as well as inspire me for participation at holy Mass."

Sr. Dona Obenrader, O.S.B.

Sister Dona Obenrader, OSB, says she sees this jubilee as an opportunity to express her gratefulness to God for allowing her to keep giving to others for as long as she is able.

"And I'm still able to do that," she says.

After entering the Benedictine Sisters of Erie from her home parish of St. Michael in Fryburg, Sister Dona spent 32 years as an elementary teacher at Catholic schools throughout the Diocese of Erie. She still hears from former students who want to thank her and tell her about their successes.

"I've heard from a few," she says, "and they were very complimentary."

Sister Dona engaged in the ministry of hospitality at Mount St. Benedict Monastery as switchboard attendant. To her, reaching out to guests who found their way to the monastery and offering them a kind and caring welcome falls in line with her favorite verse in the Rule of Benedict: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

"The Rule of Benedict says that all guests should be welcomed as Christ," she says. "I take that to heart. We never know what others have in their lives. Helping them is doing the work of God."

In 2004, Sister Dona began her volunteer ministry in her religious community's Development Office—a ministry she continues to this day.

Day in and day out, Sister Dona finds ways to give of herself and for her, this giving is not a duty but a privilege.



60 YEARS

Elementary teacher:

- St. Gregory, North East
- Sacred Heart, Sharon
- St. Joseph, Sharon
- Immaculate Conception, Clarion
- Mount Calvary, Erie
- St. Joseph, Oil City

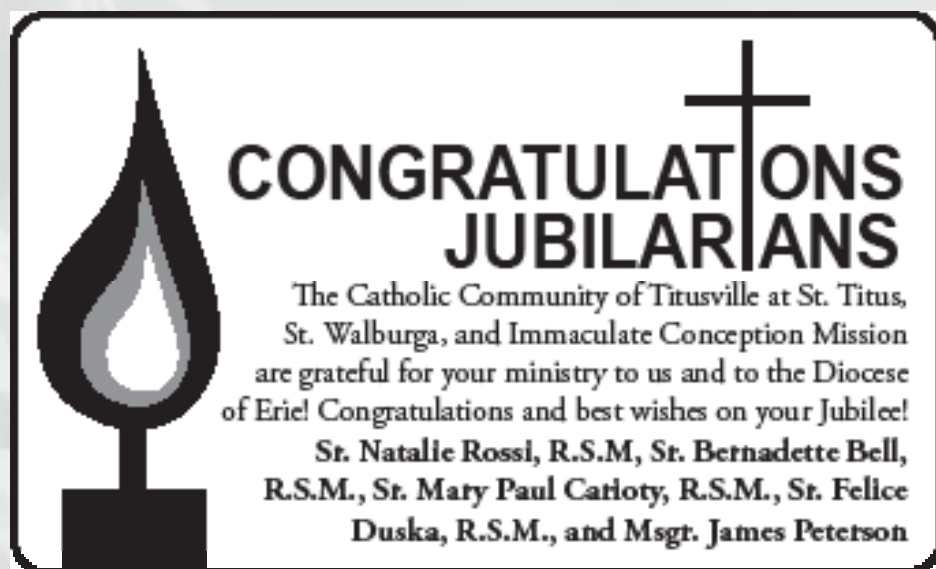
Secretary/librarian:

- All Saints, Wickliffe, Ohio

Benedictine Sisters of Erie:

- St. Benedict Education Center, tutor
- Hospitality ministry
- Development Office volunteer
- Ministry of prayer and presence

My Inspiration: "Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down and overflowing will be poured into your lap." – Luke 6:38



Sr. Donna Marie Orton, R.S.M.

The spiritual life that is woven into the fabric of the Sisters of Mercy and helping others are of key importance for Sister Donna Marie Orton, RSM.

One of four children of the Orton family growing up in the rural neighborhood of St. Boniface Parish in Hammett Township, south of Erie, Sister Donna Marie attended the two-room St. Boniface School. She first met the Sisters of Mercy as a high school student at Mercyhurst Seminary, Erie, (now Mercyhurst Preparatory School) and later as a student at Mercyhurst College (now Mercyhurst University), where she earned bachelor's degrees in math and biology.

It was there that several of the Mercy Sisters "had a positive influence on me," she says.

She entered the Sisters of Mercy in Titusville on Aug. 15, 1952.

Sister Donna Marie taught math and science at both the elementary and secondary levels in the Diocese of Erie. She especially enjoyed teaching math at Cathedral Prep in Erie.

Later, she studied and became a registered radiology technician at Mercy Hospital in Buffalo.

Armed with the knowledge gleaned at the hospital, she moved in 1958 to DuBois Hospital (now DuBois Regional Medical Center) where she worked as a radiology technician and later as head of the department.

"Due to a shortage of technicians, we were approved to start a school at DuBois Hospital," she recalls. "In nine years we graduated about 27 students, and all of them became registered technicians in the American Registry of Radiological Technicians."

She remained there 30 years.

"In those days you did hand processing of the film which took more than an hour," she volunteers, "much different than the instant views today."

She adds, "I especially enjoyed that ministry because I was able to help people

who were injured or ill."

Sister Donna Marie returned to Erie and with her strong math background joined the late Sister Mary Charles Weschler, RSM, in the accounting department of the Mercy community, retiring after 20 years.

Over the years, she has become an accomplished woodworker, making colorful, seasonal table decorations and finishing projects in her home. Many consider her outdoor gardens and indoor aquariums as touches of beauty and grace.



Teacher:

- Ss. Cosmas and Damian, Punxsutawney
- Cathedral Prep, Erie
- St. Joseph Academy, Titusville
- St. Michael, Greenville
- St. Justin, Pittsburgh

Radiology technician/supervisor:

- DuBois Regional Medical Center
- Mercy Hospital, Buffalo

Sisters of Mercy:

- Bookkeeper/accountant

My Inspiration: "Be sure you have a comfortable cup of tea for them when I am gone."—Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy

Sr. Cecilia Sullivan, O.S.B.

Sister Cecilia Sullivan, OSB, considers it a privilege to have ministered to so many people during her 60 years of religious life—from young children in mission lands and students preparing for first holy Communion to adults and seniors depending on her care.

"That's been one of my joys—to touch different generations," Sister Cecilia says. "Through the years, it seems like they've helped me as much as I've helped them."

She entered the Benedictine Sisters of Erie through her home parish of Sacred Heart in Sharon.

As a teacher for 29 years, Sister Cecilia enjoyed preparing students for the sacraments.

"I taught a lot of first Communion classes," she recalls. "To truly be part of getting them ready for their sacramental life in the church is really a blessing."

During her years of faithful service, Sister Cecilia has had the opportunity to extend the Gospel message and her community's Benedictine spirituality beyond the borders of the Diocese of Erie as a missionary in Alaska and visitor to the diocesan

Mission of Friendship in Mérida, Mexico.

She notes that she always had a desire for mission life when the opportunity in Alaska opened up for her. She taught for three years in a Catholic grade school and served two years in mission territory on Prince of Wales Island of the Alexander Archipelago in the Alaska Panhandle.

"I got the chance to work with people on the islands," she recalls. "There were several towns, and every Sunday we got together as a community. I tried to make the services the best I could. It did a lot for my own spiritual life to know that these people wanted to be closer to God."

She says she worked with helping the children learn more about their faith, but she also helped many of the adults with day-to-day duties.

After many years in education, Sister Cecilia spent eight years as an administrative assistant at John XXIII Home in Hermitage.

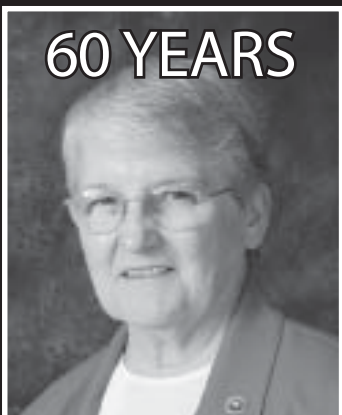
At St. Benedict Education Center in Erie, where she has served for the past 18 years, she works among those most in need. Located in the former St. Benedict Academy building in downtown Erie, the center offers intensive case management along with job preparation, development and placement assistance for nearly 3,000 each year.

Sister Cecilia has been on the center's staff and served as a teacher. For the past few years, she has been in charge of building supervision.

"It's a pleasure to help our refugees—our new Americans," she says. "Some of them have been in refugee camps for many years."

Sister Cecilia retired from the center June 30, but plans to come back in the fall on a volunteer basis.

"I feel blessed that the Benedictine way has been spread through my ministries," she says. "I desire to live and spread both Benedictine and Gospel values as long as I can."



Elementary teacher:

- St. Mary, Erie
- St. Joseph, Oil City
- St. Michael, Fryburg
- Sacred Heart, Sharon
- Mount Calvary, Erie
- Immaculate Conception, Clarion
- St. Gregory, North East

Missionary:

- Teacher at Holy Name, Ketchikan, Alaska

John XXIII Home, Hermitage:

- Administrative assistant
- Benedictine Sisters of Erie:
- St. Benedict Education Center, teacher and building supervisor

My Inspiration: "Be still and know that I am God."—Psalm 46

Sr. Mary Arnold Tann, S.S.J.

Sister Mary Arnold Tann, SSJ, is grateful to her family, especially her parents, for their love, prayers and support in her religious vocation. She's also thankful for her religious community and the many grace-filled years.

"The prayerfulness and love of my family strengthened me as I responded to God's invitation to be a Sister of St. Joseph," Sister Mary Arnold says. "Within the community, I found a very dedicated spirit and strong faith in serving God and his people in a variety of ministries."

Her ministry in education includes 30 years as a teacher and principal at a number of diocesan Catholic schools and 24 years as an administrator in the Diocese of Erie's Office of Education.

She says her experiences have displayed faith and dedication in action.

"This was a continuation of helping each student to be the very best he or she could be," Sister Mary Arnold says. "This was a strong thread that was woven into my life and came naturally as a teacher and administrator in the school setting."

Her religious community has been an extension of her family, she notes, and both continue to impact her faith journey.

"The sisters' presence, support, prayers and guidance nourished my vocation to be a Sister of St. Joseph," Sister Mary Arnold says. "As a family we were taught to be the very best we could be with who we are and whatever we became involved in. My brothers were altar servers and the family was so much a part in helping them to be the best they could be. We all learned the Latin responses to be helpful and supportive."

A native of Hamilton, Ohio, Sister Mary Arnold entered the Sisters of St. Joseph from St. Andrew Parish in Erie in 1952. She made her first profession in 1955 and her final profession in 1958.

A graduate of Villa Maria Academy in Erie, she received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College in Erie, her master's in guidance and counseling from Gannon College (now Gannon University) in Erie. She earned certifications in school administration from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and library science from Penn State Erie-The Behrend College.



60 YEARS

Teacher:

- Blessed Sacrament, Erie
- Villa Maria Elementary, Erie
- St. Peter Cathedral, Erie
- Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- St. Bernard, Bradford
- St. Ann, Erie

Principal:

- St. Ann, Erie
- Blessed Sacrament, Erie

Librarian:

- Our Lady of Peace, Erie

Diocese of Erie:

- Associate vicar for education
- Superintendent of schools
- Director of teacher personnel

Volunteer:

- Saint Vincent Health Center, Erie

Board member:

- Sisters of St. Joseph Board of Corporators
- Mercy Center for the Arts, Erie
- Saint Vincent auxiliary board, Erie

My Inspiration: "Serve the Lord with gladness" — Psalm 100:2. This Psalm reflects the spirit and joy of the Sisters of St. Joseph that I experienced and that inspired me as I attended Villa Maria Elementary and Villa Maria Academy during the early years of my education."

Notre Dame Parish family congratulates...

*Msgr. Salvatore Mitchell,
Msgr. Charles Murcko,
Msgr. Robert Malene,
Rev. Philip Pinczewski*



...and all Jubilarians!

Congratulations and best wishes to all Jubilarians.
We especially pay tribute to the following:

- 60th - Sr. Mary Arnold Tann, S.S.J.**
- 50th - Rev. William M. Kuba**
- 50th - Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, S.T.D., S.S.L.**
- 50th - Sr. Monica Steiner, O.S.B.**
- 40th - Rev. Msgr. Charles A. Kaza, V.G.**

Elle County Catholic School System

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Fr. Raymond Gramata and the parishioners of St. Bernard Parish, Bradford are pleased to recognize the accomplishments of the following Jubilarians:



60 years
Sr. Mary Arnold Tann, SSJ
(elementary teacher)
Sr. Marilyn Terwilliger, SSJ
(elementary teacher)

50 years
Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, STD, SSL (Bishop)

Congratulations to all the Jubilarians and Thank You for your dedication!

Sr. Marilyn Terwilliger, S.S.J.

Sister Marilyn Terwilliger, SSJ, remembers receiving her calling at an early age.

“When I was a very young girl, I went to daily Mass,” Sister Marilyn says.

She was also greatly influenced by the Sisters of St. Joseph at her home parish of St. Bernard in Bradford who taught her at St. Bernard elementary and high schools.

“My family supported and encouraged (my vocation),” she says. “I have a great desire to serve God and God’s people.”

Sister Marilyn entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1952, made her first profession in 1955 and her final profession in 1958. She earned her bachelor’s degree in education from Villa Maria College in Erie and her master’s in administration from the University of Detroit.

Her ministry over the years includes many years in education and teaching at a number of diocesan Catholic schools. She served the Diocese of Memphis, Tenn., for nearly 30 years as administrator of St. Peter Manor, a senior care housing facility. She has received awards for service from Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Memphis and outstanding performance from Gov. Ned McWherter, the late governor of Tennessee. She retired in 2007.

Over the years, Sister Marilyn says she has been deeply touched by the faith of many people. One of them is Archbishop Peter Sartain of Seattle.

She got to know the archbishop when she served in Tennessee and he was a priest of the Diocese of Memphis. Archbishop Sartain served as the bishop of the dioceses of Little Rock, Ark., and Joliet, Ill., before his appointment as metropolitan archbishop of Seattle.

“He has inspired me because of his deep religion, spirituality and friendship,” Sister Marilyn says.



60 YEARS

Teacher:

- Bradford Central Catholic High School
- St. Agatha, Meadville
- St. Francis, Clearfield
- St. Andrew, Erie
- St. Leo, Ridgway
- St. Patrick, Erie
- Holy Rosary, Erie

Principal:

- Villa Maria Academy, Erie
- Circulation desk:**
- Gannon University library, Erie
- Social work:**
- St. Martin Center, Erie
- Housing manager:**
- St. Peter Manor, Memphis, Tenn.

MyInspiration: “Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will” (Psalm 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11). I like this because that is what I answered to in religious life.”

Sr. Ricarda Vincent, S.S.J.

Sister Ricarda Vincent, SSJ, isn’t exactly sure when and how her call to religious life came to be because from an early age, she was attracted to the spiritual.

“I am uncertain if I even knew what it was about, but I liked going to church—the quiet and the sense that somehow God was present,” Sister Ricarda remembers. “It was a rather gradual, constant and consistent call which, at times, I tried to ignore but finally responded to by entering the Sisters of St. Joseph. I have often thought that the description of God’s pursuit in Francis Thompson’s poem, ‘The Hound of Heaven,’ described how I felt about my call.”

A native of Erie, she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph from St. Andrew Parish in 1952. She made her first profession in 1955 and her final profession in 1958. She received her bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College in Erie and her master’s in human services from John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Numerous people have inspired her during her years of religious life, she says, far too many to mention individually.

“Certainly, my family influenced me in my formative years,” Sister Ricarda recalls. “I have been deeply touched by the faith life and the commitment of the parishioners of Sacred Heart and Holy Rosary (in Erie). Many of the sisters I have lived and worked with have been instrumental in my spiritual growth because of their dedication and commitment.”

On a broader level, she notes that she has been inspired by the courage of Pope John XXIII and his openness to the Holy Spirit in convoking the Second Vatican Council. She admires both Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu as universal examples of forgiveness and commitment to the way of peace, justice and unity.

She continues to go back to the words of Father Pedro Arrupe, SJ, for inspiration—“Nothing is more practical than finding God, that is, than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything. It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning, what you do with your evenings, how you spend your weekends, what you read, who you know, what breaks your heart and what amazes you with joy and gratitude. Fall in love, stay in love and it will decide everything.”



60 YEARS

Teacher:

- St. Joseph Home for Children, Erie
- St. John the Baptist, Erie
- St. Brigid, Meadville
- Blessed Sacrament, Erie
- St. Patrick, Erie

Principal:

- Holy Rosary, Erie

Director of religious education:

- Holy Rosary, Erie
- Sacred Heart, Erie

Guidance counselor:

- Sacred Heart, Erie

Pastoral minister:

- Sacred Heart, Erie

Student nurse:

- Spencer Hospital, Meadville

Senior vice president/mission integration:

- Saint Vincent Health Center, Erie

Sisters of St. Joseph:

- Leadership president
- Social justice coordinator
- Counselor
- Novice director

MyInspiration: “One of my favorite stories is from the Gospel of Luke with the disciples on the road to Emmaus. As Jesus accompanied them and explained his mission, they failed to recognize him until the breaking of the bread. I can so identify with these disciples. It reminds me that Jesus is with me in times of discouragement and fear even though, like the disciples, I do not always recognize him. He is with us always, especially in the Eucharist.”

Rev. Msgr. Bruce R. Allison

Three days after Msgr. Bruce Allison arrived in Rome as a seminarian, Pope Pius XII died.

He was in St. Peter's Square to see the billows of white smoke announcing the election of Pope John XXIII.

"He's my hero," Msgr. Allison says of Pope John XXIII, who convened the Second Vatican Council but did not live to see its conclusion. But in his four-and-a-half years as pope, his humor, warmth and kindness captured the affections of the faithful.

"I learned the Latin Mass. But as soon as we were ordained, everything was exciting and new," Msgr. Allison says, referring to the implementing of Vatican II. "We were coming out of that musty, self-centered attitude of us versus the world. They were wonderful years. We were opening up to the world, opening up to people and trying to solve problems."

Ordained a priest in Rome, Msgr. Allison recalls his class was the first in living memory to be ordained at St. Peter's Basilica.

"We had too large of a class to do it in the college chapel," he remembers. "John XXIII approved it, and we ended up being ordained at the Altar of the Chair (of St. Peter). It was unexpected and undeserved. It wasn't automatic for classes after ours to be ordained at the basilica. Now they do it all the time."

A native of St. Joseph Parish in Erie, Msgr. Allison says he starting thinking of the priesthood when he was a student at Cathedral Prep.

"We had really great priests," he says. "Msgr. Dan Martin mentored us without pushing too much. For me, there was no flash in the sky and I didn't fall off a horse. I just gradually moved toward it."

Msgr. Allison served at St. Mark Seminary from 1964-83 as a teacher then later as dean of students when the seminary had a high school program.

"My greatest joy is teaching," he says. "I love it. I loved being on the faculty there."

After the high school program closed, he went into parish work.

As Prep's headmaster from 1995 to 2000, Msgr. Allison found himself back in the classroom teaching Latin. As pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Erie from 2000 to 2008, he continued to teach Latin at OLMC School. His students have gone on to win gold medals and receive summa cum laude certificates in the National Latin Exam, a test which covers general knowledge of Latin grammar and vocabulary, mythology, customs, derivatives and translation abilities.

Msgr. Allison currently serves as pastor of St. Julia Parish in Erie.



50 YEARS

Pastor:

- St. Julia, Erie
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Erie
- St. Mary of Grace, Meadville

Parochial administrator:

- St. Cyprian, Waterford

Parochial vicar:

- St. Luke, Erie

Dean of students/faculty:

- St. Mark Seminary, Erie

Secondary education:

- Cathedral Prep, Erie (headmaster)

Diocese of Erie:

- Presbyteral Council

My Inspiration: "None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." – Romans 14:7-8

Congratulations and God's Blessings Msgr. Bruce Allison

On the 50th Anniversary
of your
Ordination to the Priesthood

From your nephews
Fr. Michael, Chris, R. Craig, Jr.,
James, and Joseph Allison

In Memory of
Kermit R., Irene G.,
and R. Craig Allison, Sr.
Now dwelling in the Communion of Saints





RIDG-U-RAK of North East, PA
would like to congratulate
Most Reverend Donald Trautman
and
Monsignor William Biebel
on their respective
jubilee anniversaries.
Thank you for your
service throughout the years!



The Name To Trust!

Rev. Msgr. William E. Biebel

When talking with some young priests recently, Msgr. William Biebel told them he wishes he was their age starting over—but not that he'd do anything differently.

"I'd just like to go through it again, I've had that good a ride," Msgr. Biebel says. "I wish I was 30 starting over. I really mean that. The priesthood has been so wonderful and so good and the people have been so great, I don't want to see the end

of the ride come on."

A native of St. John the Baptist Parish in Erie, Msgr. Biebel says the joys of the priesthood have changed for him over the years. As a faculty member and assistant headmaster at Cathedral Prep in Erie, where he served for 24 years, he delighted in the interaction with the students. He still enjoys the exchange with younger students at St. Peter Cathedral School.

He's always loved the liturgy and celebrating Mass. But for a number of years, his greatest joy has come from meeting people in the sacrament of reconciliation.

"I absolutely love hearing confessions," he says. "Not only is it one-on-one and life changing for many people, it's also extremely comforting and I am so happy to be part of their lives that way. You can put people's hearts at ease and help calm their spirit."

He hears confessions at the cathedral, where the sacrament is offered daily, as well as at high schools and Divine Mercy Encounters.

He has served as rector of St. Peter Cathedral, the mother church of the Diocese of Erie, since 1994. There he offers a friendly presence to parishioners and visitors alike.

"I think the cathedral needs to constantly be a welcoming source for people," Msgr. Biebel says. "It needs to be centrally welcoming to anybody. That's our job."

As a musician, he has given concerts, especially on theater organs, and done recitals. He plays the cathedral organ at Christmastime and composes music for Mass and evening prayer.

"Being involved with ministry, I haven't had a lot of time for music the past few years, but I look forward to doing more of it," he says.

As a grade school student at St. John in the '40s, Msgr. Biebel recalls a priest from Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church celebrating a Byzantine liturgy for the school kids.

"I was impressed and charmed by the way this was another style of being Catholic," he says. "After I was ordained, I began work on getting my bi-ritual faculties with the idea that I wanted to share the beauty of the Eastern Church with Latin rite Catholics."

He has had dual rites for 35 years.

Msgr. Biebel celebrated 50 years of priestly ordination with three days of prayer in three rites of the Catholic Church. He celebrated the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Byzantine Rite) May 27 at Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Erie; he offered Mass in the extraordinary rite (Latin Mass according to the Roman Missal of 1962, as it was on the day of his ordination) May 31 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie; and on June 3, he celebrated Mass at the cathedral followed by sung evening prayer with music he composed for his 25th, 40th and 50th anniversaries.

"I'm very happy," Msgr. Biebel says. "It's only by the grace of God that you can go at it this long."



50 YEARS

Rector:

- St. Peter Cathedral, Erie

Pastor:

- St. Joseph, Erie

Secondary education:

- Cathedral Prep, Erie

Sacramental assistant:

- St. James, Erie

Chaplain:

- Sisters of Mercy, Erie

Diocese of Erie:

- Ecumenical officer, Northern Vicariate
- Dean, Erie West Deanery
- Presbyteral Council
- Priests' Personnel Board
- Pastor Review Board

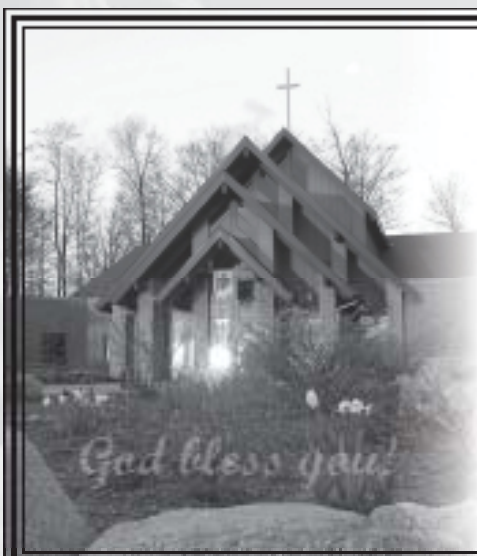
My Inspiration: "When Gideon was being called to lead Israel and he didn't think he had the potential, God spoke to him and said, 'Go with the strength you have and I will be with you.' (Judges 6:14) I take a lot of comfort in that."

**Congratulations, Father Bruce,
on your 50th Anniversary of Ordination**

from Keith and Judy Allison and Family

**God wants nothing of you
but the gift of a peaceful heart.**

Meister Eckhart



**Monsignor
Bruce Allison:**

Congratulations on
50 years
of priestly service.

We remember the years
you served us so well
at St. Cyprian Parish.
~ All Saints Parish

God bless you!

*Congratulations to our former
pastor, Msgr. Bruce Allison, on the
50th anniversary of your ordination
from your grateful parishioners at
Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Erie).*

Rev. William M. Kuba

Carefully noticing the priests celebrating Mass at his home parish of St. Nicholas in Struthers, Ohio, Father William Kuba was drawn to the priesthood.

"I appreciated the gift of faith and the training given to me by my parents," Father Kuba says.

He was also inspired by his cousin, the late Msgr. Stephen Meko, who also was a priest of the Diocese of Erie. Msgr. Meko invited him to attend school in Erie,

and Father Kuba accepted.

He finds the joys of his priesthood in providing for the needs of those in his spiritual care and meeting people in the sacraments.

"They should come first," Father Kuba says. "It's probably the reason I haven't retired completely. As long as I can minister and celebrate Mass for them, I'm happy."

He has served St. Eusebius Parish in East Brady and the mission church of St. Richard in Rimersburg since 1998, first as pastor and currently as parochial administrator.

"I believe I have an obligation to teach, instruct and enlighten the people of the parish and keep them informed."

After 50 years of ministry, he says his prayer time is still vital and energizing. He sets aside time for praying the office, Scripture reading and preparation for Mass.

Father Kuba says he considers the lack of priests to minister to God's people as one of the most vital issues facing the church today.

"So large a harvest and so few harvesters," he says.



Pastor:

- St. Eusebius, East Brady
- St. Richard, Rimersburg
- St. Thomas the Apostle, Corry
- St. Callistus, Kane
- St. Francis of Assisi, Bradford
- St. Bibiana, Galeton

Parochial administrator:

- St. Eusebius, East Brady
- St. Richard, Rimersburg
- Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg
- St. Benedict, Daguscahonda

Parochial vicar:

- Beloved Disciple, Grove City

Sacramental assistant:

- Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg

Secondary education:

- Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys

Diocese of Erie:

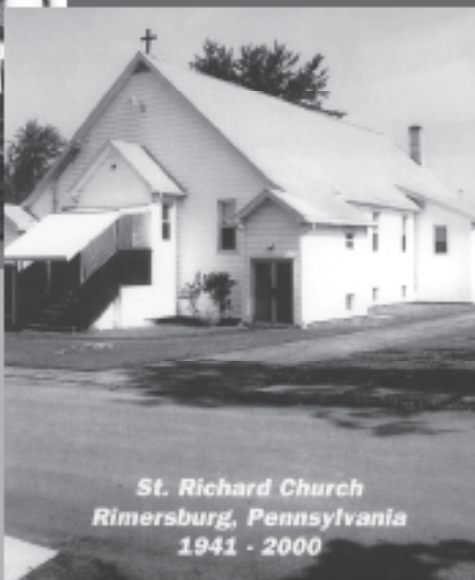
- Dean, Bradford Deanery
- Presbyteral Council
- Finance Council
- Priests' Senate
- Marriage Tribunal, judge

50 YEARS

My Inspiration: "The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapters 5-7) because it's what Christ expects of us"



Let the heavens rejoice...



for Rev. William Kuba, Bishop Donald Trautman and all those celebrating anniversaries this year! God bless you all!

Congratulations on 50 years of faithful service!

Sr. Monica Steiner, O.S.B.



St. Joseph Church and School, Lucinda

Sr. Rita Lynch, M.H.S.H.

Sister Rita Lynch, M.H.S.H., met the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart while taking a lay catechist course. She then taught with the sisters at St. Matthew in the Woods Parish for Vacation Bible School followed by two years at St. Francis Xavier Parish in McKean.

Although inspired by the love and dedication of many of the Sisters of St. Joseph and Benedictine Sisters of Erie who taught her in school, it was the missionary outreach of the Mission Helpers that really touched her heart and awakened a desire to follow Christ in this community.

A native of Erie, Sister Rita's home parish of St. Ann fostered many vocations to religious and priestly life. She attended St. Ann School and St. Benedict Academy.

Since joining the Mission Helpers Sept. 8, 1962, Sister Rita has had many mission experiences. She says she feels fortunate to have been raised in a neighborhood where there were so many ethnicities, religions and cultures.

"Our parents taught us to appreciate all those different groups," Sister Rita says. "So I was ready to move around the country and meet new people in a variety of situations."

Early ministries in Colorado, South Carolina, Virginia and Texas put her on many a mission circuit. She and the sisters would be based in one town but traveled around the region to many parishes.

"We taught children and adults, visited people in their homes and hospitals, formed catechists and prepared people for multiple leadership roles in their parishes," she says. "We also encouraged youth and young adults to reach out to meet the needs of their neighbors, whether corporal or spiritual. When we left a mission, the people were well prepared to carry on Christ's ministry and to be confident leaders in their parishes."

After working on a mission circuit, Sister Rita moved to a large parish in Fairport, N.Y., with 1,600 students in the religious education program. Wherever her ministries took her, she always spent time serving people with special needs and making sure that they were included in educational programs and in sharing their talents in parish ministry.

In 1993, Sister Rita became a full-time Catholic chaplain at Polk Center in Polk.

"It was a blessing to do daily pastoral ministry with these women and men with developmental disabilities," she says. "They taught me so much about

unconditional love."

Following her 12 years at Polk Center, Sister Rita became an educational assistant for inclusion at Sunrise Drive Elementary School in Tucson, Ariz. There her mission was to help children with special needs to participate in regular classroom learning experiences.

"It was wonderful to see all the children and staff in the school interact and grow within this caring, compassionate community," she says.

Over the years, Sister Rita has served a number of parishes throughout the United States as director of religious education. She has evangelized in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Brooklyn, N.Y., helped refugees from Central America find sanctuary in the U.S. and traveled to Jamaica as a representative of Food for the Poor.

"I am grateful for all the people who have shared their lives with me," Sister Rita says. "I see what they have done with so little and know that it is not what people have that matters, but what is deep inside their hearts."



50 YEARS

Home parish:

- St. Ann, Erie

Assignments in the Diocese of Erie:

Chaplain:

- Polk Center

My Inspiration: "One of my favorite Scripture passages is Romans 8:35-39: I am convinced that nothing can separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus."

Sr. Teresa Okonski, R.S.M.

Deciding to become a Sister of Mercy was not easy for Sister Teresa Okonski, RSM. On one hand, the sisters who taught her in grade school, high school and at Mercyhurst College, Erie (now Mercyhurst University), were the joy of her education.

"They were always encouraging me to do my best and rejoicing in my successes," says Sister Teresa, a native of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in DuBois.

As she matured, she realized that the Sisters of Mercy lived lives full of meaning and energy.

"It was contagious!" she recalls. "After my first year in college, I started to feel their 'fire' for good works and dedication to God. I had a natural bent for things spiritual and felt very drawn to their lifestyle."

But on the other hand, she found her decision wrenching as many of her friends were headed in a different direction and getting married.

"It wasn't until my first few weeks in the motherhouse in Titusville that I knew that religious life was a good fit for me," she says.

Sister Teresa entered the Sisters of Mercy

50 YEARS



Teacher:

- St. Luke, Erie
- Immaculate Conception, Brookville
- St. Justin, Pittsburgh
- St. George, Erie
- Our Lady of Fatima, Farrell

Campus ministry director:

- Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie

Sisters of Mercy:

- Vocations director

My Inspiration: "We should be as a shining lamp, giving light to all around us." – Catherine McAuley, Sisters of Mercy founder

on Sept. 8, 1962, and professed her final vows on Aug. 13, 1970.

She credits the late Sister Aurelia Helmheckel, her former second-grade teacher, with being instrumental with her vocation decision.

"At first, we enjoyed a growing professional relationship which grew into a cherished personal friendship," she says. "I so admired her unique approach with young children and the warmth she extended to all around her. She was a model of goodness that I wished to emulate and the way of Mercy seemed most natural for me to take."

Sister Teresa earned master's degrees from Kutztown University, Kutztown, Pa., and Creighton University, Omaha, Neb.

Her career included teaching, campus ministry and vocations work. She is a certified spiritual director and is certified to conduct directed retreats.

She said the Mercy lifestyle provides her with the balance she needs.

"I can begin my day with prayer and holy Mass, go through a full day of attending to young people and their needs and then return to the refreshment of a caring community and be renewed by time spent in personal prayer," she says.



***Congratulations to Bishop Trautman on his 50th Jubilee Year
and to all of the other members of the clergy, religious and deacons
who are celebrating their years of service to the Church.***

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Sr. Natalie Rossi, R.S.M.

Taught by her parents to be open to all peoples, to be compassionate, non-judgmental, a good listener, creative and open to new ideas, Sister Natalie Rossi, RSM, has strived to live those lessons in her 50 years as a Sister of Mercy.

High on her list of assignments were her team ministry on the Navajo Reservation in Fort Defiance, Ariz., and prison ministry in Bernalillo County Detention Center, Albuquerque, N.M., and Cambridge Springs Women's Prison, Cambridge Springs.

"I was able to be myself and use my talents and creativity in both ministries," she says. "I developed programs to fit the needs of the Navajos and prisoners after assessing their needs."

Coming from a large Italian family attending Church of the Beloved Disciple in Grove City, she was among the early lay cadet teachers from Mercyhurst College (now Mercyhurst University) in Erie teaching in Punxsutawney.

Sister Natalie felt someone in the family should be a sister, but not herself.

"Sister Judith Uzzo, my supervisor, showed me I could still be me and be a Sister of Mercy," she recalls. "She was open, fun, non-judgmental, kind and a good listener."

When thoughts of becoming a missionary entered her mind, she was assured by the then mother superior, "Why, we *are* missionaries!" And Sister Natalie eventually did become a missionary to the Navajo Reservation.

"Each one of us is called to bring peace, justice and mercy into this chaotic world," she says. "I work at trying to bring peace, so that when I walk out of a situation, more peace is present."

After entering in Titusville and earning a bachelor's degree in elementary education, she completed post-graduate work at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind.; Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich.; Miami University in Ohio; and Westminster (Pa.) College. Sister Natalie became a certified chaplain with the Association for



Team ministry:

- Jail, hospital senior citizen visitations, religious education coordinator, adult education retreat work, Fort Defiance, Ariz.

Prison ministry:

- Pastoral care counseling, Los Lunas Women's Correctional Facility
- Developer/coordinator of life skills program for men, Albuquerque, N.M.

- Developer/coordinator of female offenders' program, Erie
- Facility chaplaincy program director, SCI Cambridge Springs
- Coordinator of education for the incarcerated, Mercyhurst College

Sisters of Mercy:

- Erie community formation team
- Local leader, Erie
- Councilor, community leadership team

My Inspiration: "You have been told what God requires of you: to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." - Micah
"Lord, make me a channel of your peace." - Prayer of St. Francis

Clinical Pastoral Education and the National Association of Catholic Chaplains at St. Joseph Hospital, Albuquerque.

"I have been able to grow through the many opportunities I have had in ministry," she says. "My talents and creativity have been nourished. I believe in the spiritual and corporal works of Mercy that the sisters live."

Sister Natalie has been her religious community's local leader in Erie for the past year and is now embarking on a new adventure as a councilor on the leadership team for the New York, Pennsylvania and Pacific West Community based in Buffalo.

For those outside looking in, Sister Natalie offers a few words.

"Every human being is called," she says. "No call is better than another. Listen to where God is calling you and (he) will provide you with what you need."

She advises to pray and spend time with a spiritual director.

"Enter because you feel or hear the call, not because you feel it is a better way of life," she says. "Every vocation is a call—single, married, religious. God will be with you in whatever you choose."

Sr. Monica Steiner, O.S.B.

Sister Monica Steiner, OSB, was in third grade at St. Joseph School in Lucinda when she first began to think that she wanted to be a sister.

Her teacher that year was Sister Augustine Huefner, OSB.

"To me, she was the best teacher ever," Sister Monica recalls, "although in third grade there weren't many teachers to compare her with."

Sister Augustine was an inspiration and remained a favorite of hers throughout her years at St. Joseph.

"As I began to learn about the saints, I knew someday I wanted my name to be Sister Monica," she says. "I'm not sure at that age I even knew what order of sisters staffed our school. I just knew I wanted to be one of them. I never really lost that desire."

Sister Monica entered the Benedictine Sisters of Elk County and made her profession of vows Aug. 18, 1962. She has spent her entire ministry in education, serving in Catholic schools as a teacher and principal and at parishes teaching religious education. She is currently the principal at St. Joseph School in Lucinda



50 YEARS

Principal:

- St. Joseph, Lucinda

Teacher:

- Sacred Heart, St. Marys
- Queen of the World, St. Marys
- St. Mary, St. Marys

- St. Joseph, Lucinda

Religious education:

- St. Joseph, Force
- Sacred Heart, St. Marys
- St. Mary, St. Marys
- St. Joseph, Lucinda

My Inspiration: "One of the Scripture readings that means much to me is taken from Matthew 11:28-30. I also like Psalm 23. Both of these Scriptures are comforting. No matter what may happen, Christ will always be there for us."

where she has served since 1989.

She says her life has been guided by the faith of many people over the years.

"My family has always touched my life," Sister Monica says. "Their faithfulness to their faith and their families has been an inspiration. The sisters of my community who have lived their vowed lives to the fullest were and are an inspiration."

She cites Sister Anne Stedman, OSB, as a particular influence on her life.

She has also been inspired by several pastors, especially Father Joseph Staszewski.

"He gave more than 100 percent when he was pastor (at St. Joseph in Lucinda), both as spiritual leader and as an example when there was any project to be completed."

She also mentions the dedication of the staff at St. Joseph School.

"They make the school," she says.

Sister Monica encourages others to devote time and energy to their spiritual lives.

"Physical exercise improves our physical health, so spiritual exercises improve our spiritual health," she states. "Being faithful to our spiritual life opens the door to God's will. Faithfulness to the spiritual molds our inner selves and helps us form a closer relationship with God and with other people."

Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, S.T.D., S.S.L.

The greatest joy of Bishop Donald Trautman's priesthood is celebrating the Eucharist.

"That's the most intimate part of our spiritual life," the bishop says. "Being with the risen Lord in the Eucharist is, for me, the greatest source of encouragement. Unworthy as we are to be present and to receive the Lord, that's the greatest joy that I have—to renew his words, 'Do this in memory of me.'"

Bishop Trautman recognizes that his vocation story is probably different from a lot of other priests who perhaps had a conversion experience or came upon their calling later in life. He readily admits that he always wanted to be a priest from early on, as he was deeply encouraged by the example of lived priesthood at his home parish of St. Mark in Buffalo, N.Y.

He was raised in a household of faith created by his parents and brother and sister, he says.

"We grew up in Buffalo at a time when the church was very much loved and highly regarded," he recalls. "I attended Catholic school and served Mass nearly every day. I looked forward to that. It was a joy and a highlight of my day."

Bishop Trautman was determined to go into seminary early on, but his parents were afraid that he was too young to be considering a vocational journey into priesthood. His parish priests agreed and thought he should take more time to explore other opportunities before committing himself to the call.

"But that's what I wanted," he says. "And I thank them for their good example because they're the ones who really inspired me in so many ways. So I pursued it and never have regretted it at all. There were obstacles and challenges, but I went on. The Lord has been just so generous in calling this poor person to follow him and to share his own priestly ministry."

Studying at the University of Innsbruck in Austria under the Jesuits, Bishop Trautman was ordained a priest in 1962.

Upon ordination he was assigned as a parish priest in the Diocese of Buffalo.

"My years in a parish were encouraging years," he says. "You shepherd God's people and encounter them in their significant moments. You share so much of a person's life as a parish priest. That, I think, is very nourishing. Bringing the sacraments to people—reconciliation, anointing and preaching—those are joyful moments in my life."

In 1985, Bishop Trautman was named auxiliary bishop of Buffalo, and in 1990 he was appointed as the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Erie.

As a pastor, he served as a shepherd to 2,000 families. As a bishop, he is the shepherd of the shepherds, he says. He sees his role as one of energizing and looking

after the diocese's priests so they in turn can help those in their care at the parish.

"My favorite saying these days is that all church is local," Bishop Trautman says. "Just as we say all politics is local, I think all church is local. When the parish is strong, the diocese is strong and the church is strong. We need to build up strong faith communities at the parish level and that reverberates on a diocesan level."

One of the bishop's favorite images from Scripture is that of the foot-washing Jesus at the Last Supper.

"Jesus is the example for all of us to be servants of the Lord," he says. "At times, that can be very hard. It has to be every day, and that's a difficult task to do. We have to wash feet every day. Jesus is a humble person, a humble God. We have to imitate him. The foot-washing Jesus, for me, is everything."

Among the most vital issues facing the church today is the shortage of priests and religious women.

"The instruments of the Lord need to be in place. We're going to be looking at a very different type of Catholic-lived faith if we can't supply the Eucharist. We need priests, we need religious women. Thank God we started the permanent diaconate when we did in this diocese, which has been a big help to us. I hope that the conference of (U.S.) bishops can put aside other issues on the agenda and come together and face this issue."

If he had just one more homily to give, Bishop Trautman says he would preach on hope.

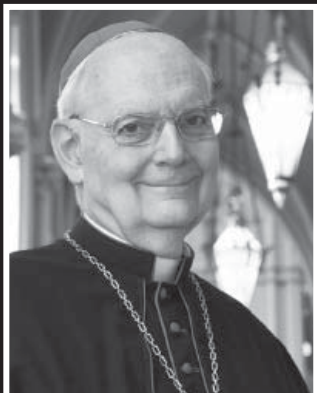
"We must recognize that the risen Jesus is in our midst," he says. "He is the risen Lord. He promised, 'I am with you all days, even until the end of time.' We have to be a people of resurrection hope, people of trust, people of confidence. But more than ever, I think I sense people being disheartened, discouraged, disappointed. Contemporary culture is very severe in its approach to the Catholic faith. But we have to be people of hope and recognize that we are on the side of Jesus, who is the victor. He is the winner and has risen from the dead."

In his retirement, Bishop Trautman says he expects to help out in parishes and would like to continue to assist the priests at the Roman Catholic Chapel at the Millcreek Mall in Erie, which he established in 2008.

"I think that has been a very significant ministry for hearing confessions," he says.

On the day *Faithful Servants* went to press, Bishop Trautman was presiding over the announcement that more than a year after his 75th birthday—the traditional time of retirement for a bishop—Pope Benedict XVI had named his successor.

"We welcome you with open arms and assure you of our full support and cooperation," Bishop Trautman said at the news conference introducing Bishop-elect Lawrence Persico as the 10th bishop of the Diocese of Erie. "I know that you will love your new spiritual family."



50 YEARS

Diocese of Erie:

- Bishop

Diocese of Buffalo:

- Auxiliary bishop
- Vicar general
- Chancellor
- Chancery, secretary to the bishop

Professor/rector:

- Christ the King Seminary (formerly St. John Vianney Seminary), East Aurora, N.Y.

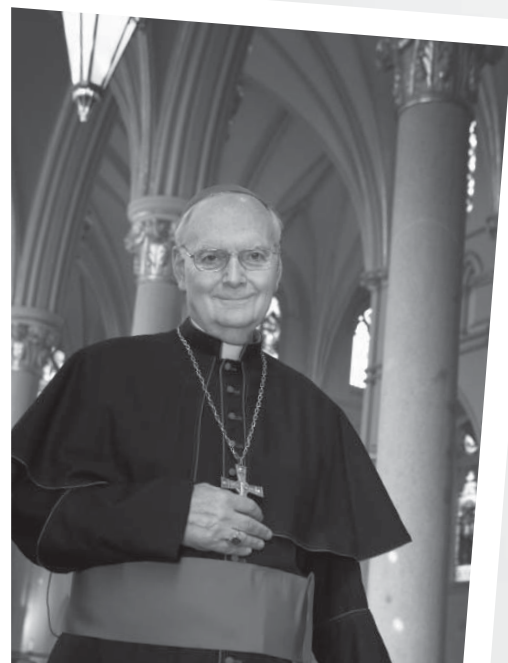
Pastor:

- Ss. Peter and Paul, Williamsville, N.Y.

Associate pastor:

- Holy Family, Buffalo, N.Y.
- **Parochial administrator:**
- St. Frances Cabrini, Collins Center, N.Y.

My Inspiration: "I'm inspired by Scripture at Mass, particularly the Gospels. 'Feed my lambs, feed my sheep,' Jesus' words to Peter (John 21:15-17). Also, Peter's words to Jesus (Matthew 16:16), 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' Peter, who was so faulty and weak at times in his faith, is there saying what we all want to be able to say in faith. That's our faith, the Son of the living God. He is risen; he is present in our midst. We are serving him and want to assist him."



Bishop Donald Trautman celebrates Mass April 17 at St. Peter Cathedral publicly marking the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Bishop Trautman was ordained April 7, 1962 in Innsbruck, Austria.

Bishop reflects on 50 years of priesthood

Bishop Donald Trautman celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with a public Mass of thanksgiving April 17 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie. The gathered congregation included many priests, deacons and women religious, along with well-wishers and friends.

"Fifty years. Where have those years gone? They've gone to God," Bishop Trautman said in his homily. "All those years were fortified by God's mercy and goodness. No one deserves the priesthood. All priests can repeat St. Paul's words: 'Through no merit of mine, God has lavished his graces upon me.'"

During the half-century of his priesthood, the bishop said he witnessed a new Pentecost in the church in the form of Vatican II, which brought dramatic liturgical and pastoral changes for God's people.

"I was consecrated a bishop 27 years ago yesterday in Buffalo," he said. "Anyone can steer the ship when the sea is calm. But the Lord asked bishops of my era to steer the ship of Christ in rough seas, times of major defections, abuse, scandals and demographic changes.

"No matter what crisis erupted in the church, the Lord was always present with his grace and guidance. And his help was more than sufficient for the problem at hand. We need to redouble our trust and confidence in Jesus, who is the pastor of the church."

Bishop Trautman emphasized that his anniversary was not about one person. He recalled Pope Leo the Great's words on preaching at his own anniversary of ordination, "To celebrate a shepherd's anniversary is to honor the whole flock."

Prayer for a New Bishop

We invite you to offer an adaptation of the prayer Bishop Donald W. Trautman composed as the Diocese of Erie awaited the announcement of a new bishop.

Lord Jesus,
Good Shepherd and Pastor of the Church,
you have guided the Erie Diocese in 13 counties
of northwest Pennsylvania for 159 years.
In your love and care for this flock,
we thank you for guiding your vicar on earth, Pope Benedict XVI,
in the selection of our new bishop.
We pray that you bless our holy shepherd and servant, Bishop-elect Persico.
May he be a courageous teacher of the faith
and a humble, wise, prudent, collaborative leader.
May he be caring and compassionate.
Endow him with the gifts your Church needs at this time.
Lord Jesus, we trust in your providence and love.
Help us welcome our new shepherd, Bishop-elect Persico,
with prayer and open hearts.
This we ask in your name, Amen.

Sr. Patricia Whalen, R.S.M.

Sister Patricia Whalen, RSM, has spent all of her 50 years of religious life in education, either as a teacher or an administrator.

It was her time spent in her elementary school classrooms, specifically with the Sisters of Mercy, and a strong Catholic family life that created fertile ground for a budding vocation.

“My parents provided my siblings and me with a legacy of deep faith, exceptional generosity, fidelity, trust in God’s providence and unconditional love,” Sister Pat says. “Within this context of family living and supported by the Sisters of Mercy who taught me, I developed a keen interest in exploring significant life questions, a desire to serve others and a willingness to respond to a call from God to live and serve as a religious.”

A native of Erie’s St. Peter Cathedral Parish, she earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Mercyhurst College (now Mercyhurst University) in Erie. She taught at St. Luke School in Erie before entering the Sisters of Mercy on Sept. 8, 1962. She made her final vows on Aug. 13, 1970.

Her early years of religious life were spent teaching elementary school students.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed assisting my students to cultivate their gifts of mind, heart and spirit,” she says.

While she enjoyed all of her assignments, she takes pride in her years as coordinator of the Cadet Teacher Program at Mercyhurst College that prepared lay men and women to teach in Catholic schools.

“I truly enjoyed assisting them to become competent

and caring professionals,” says Sister Pat, who served as the program’s coordinator from 1970-99.

She sees religious life as a countercultural way of being and living and finds the Mercy lifestyle one that encourages contemplation and prayer, action and service.

“This Gospel-based spirituality nurtures our prayer, supports our service and invites us to serve in a spirit of compassion as we seek to abide in God and with our God who is always present to us,” Sister Pat says. “Our lives in community further sustain us.”

50 YEARS



Teacher:

- St. George, Erie
- St. Patrick, Franklin
- Mercyhurst College, Erie

Principal:

- St. Patrick, Franklin

Administrator:

- Cadet Teacher Program, Mercyhurst College
- Assistant academic dean, Mercyhurst College
- Registrar, Mercyhurst University

Sisters of Mercy:

- Vice president, councilor, regional community of Erie

MyInspiration: “I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.” – John 10:10

Sr. Theresa Zoky, O.S.B.

Every sister who has ever made a final profession to the Benedictine Sisters of Erie in the community’s 156-year history has received a title that is unique to her. This title captures distinctive qualities or traits of that person.

Sister Theresa Zoky, OSB, was given the title of “The Humanity of Christ” on the evening of her monastic profession by Sister Mary Margaret Kraus, OSB, who was prioress at that time.

“My title has always been special to me,” Sister Theresa says. “While Jesus walked the earth in the flesh, he brought comfort and healing to those in need. I hope that through my teaching ministry, my love for the missions and as I strive to be Christ’s presence in this hurting world, I am doing the same.”

Sister Theresa grew up in the Shenango Valley. She received her early sacraments at St. Bartholomew Parish in Sharpsville and entered the Benedictine Sisters of Erie through St. Joseph Parish in Sharon.

After spending almost half of her religious life as an elementary teacher at Catholic schools throughout the Diocese of Erie, Sister Theresa began her ministry with the diocesan Mission Office, eventually becoming its director. For 20 years, she played a special part in being a beacon of hope, especially for the people of the Misión de Amistad—the Mission of Friendship—in Mérida, Mexico. The mission is a formal relationship between the Diocese of Erie and the Archdiocese of Yucatán, Mexico.

“To make the church truly catholic—universal—we need to realize that the faith is throughout the world and not just in our local parishes,” Sister Theresa said. “We are all part of the body of Christ, which is throughout the

world.”

During her many trips to the mission, the experience that comes back to her is the faith and joy of the people despite facing great poverty and need for material comforts.

“I think we can learn from that,” she says. “We don’t need material wealth. What we need is spiritual wealth, community and to care for each other. All cultures have the need for community, acceptance and love.”

Presently, Sister Theresa serves as secretary at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Harborcreek. For five years, she has been at the hub of that faith community’s activity.

“They’re wonderful people,” she says. “It’s a vibrant, active, faith-filled community. You can feel the liveliness, the faith and the generosity of the people. It’s just a wonderful place to work.”

Her favorite quote comes from a prayer of St. Theresa of Avila (see My Inspiration).

“Her prayer sums up the whole Christian message of love and service for me,” Sister Theresa says. “I am called to use the gifts and talents bestowed upon me to enable the God of life to be present to all with whom I live and work. It is only through my prayers and actions, and by all of us working together, that the humanity of Christ is made manifest in this hurting world.”

50 YEARS



Elementary teacher:

- St. Gregory, North East
- Immaculate Conception, Clarion
- St. Joseph, Oil City
- St. Andrew, Erie

Diocese of Erie:

- Mission Office, associate director/director
- Propagation of the Faith, director

Parish secretary:

- Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek

Benedictine Sisters of Erie:

- Archives Office, chronicler

MyInspiration: “Christ has nobody on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which his love looks out to the world; yours are the feet with which he goes about doing good; yours are the hands with which he blesses people now.” – St. Theresa of Avila

Rev. Dennis C. Hadberg

Father Dennis Hadberg is a native of St. Peter Cathedral Parish in Erie. He attended Central Harborcreek School and Harborcreek High School, both in Harborcreek. His college studies were done at Gannon University in Erie and Borromeo College in Wickliffe, Ohio. He studied for the priesthood at St. Mary Seminary in Cleveland.

He was ordained May 11, 1972.

Father Hadberg is a past member of the Clearfield Hospital Advisory Board, the AIDS Task Force of Clearfield County and Clearfield Ministerium, which he also served as president.

He most recently served as pastor of St. James Parish in Erie from 2003-07.

40 YEARS



Pastor:

- St. James, Erie
- St. Francis of Assisi, Clearfield
- St. Adalbert, Farrell

Parochial vicar:

- St. George, Erie
- Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- Our Lady Queen of the Americas, Conneaut Lake

- Sacred Heart, Erie
- Holy Rosary, Erie
- St. Julia, Erie
- St. Catherine of Siena, DuBois

Sacramental assistant:

- Blessed Sacrament, Erie

Diocese of Erie:

- Director of ecumenical affairs, Eastern Vicariate

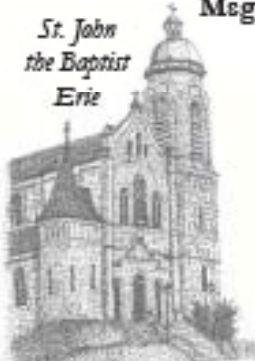

**Congratulations,
Sr. Theresa Zoky, OSB
for 50 Years...**



of faithfulness to God.
And for your presence
and commitment to the
people and staff of
Our Lady of Mercy Church.


Congratulations Jubilarians!
We are grateful you have served our Parishes and our School!

Sr. Marilyn Terwilliger, SSJ
Msgr. James Peterson - native of St. John

St. John the Baptist Erie  **Sr. Ricarda Vincent, SSJ** *Holy Rosary Erie* 
- both schools!

Msgr. William Biebel
- native of St. John
Fr. Dennis Hadberg
Msgr. Robert Barcio
- both parishes!
Msgr. Charles Kaza
- pastor of St. John

Fr. Steve Anderson and the people of Our Lady Queen of the Americas Parish in Conneaut Lake extend prayerful best wishes to jubilarians:



Thank you!

Rev. Dennis Hadberg
Rev. Scott Detisch
Sr. Mary Arnold Tann, S.S.J.
Sr. Cecilia Sullivan, O.S.B.



Mission of Friendship honors
Sr. Theresa Zoky, O.S.B.
on the occasion of
her Golden Jubilee.
¡Felicitaciones!

Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Malene, E.V.

Growing up, Msgr. Robert Malene had his eyes on a career in the Navy but was intrigued with the thought of the priesthood. He didn't know that God would grant him both.

As a young altar boy at his home parish of Our Lady, Help of Christians in Oil City, the idea of becoming a priest was mentioned to Msgr. Malene by Father Francis Kaltenbach. Father Stephen Kotyuk again reinforced the idea. The real push, however, came when he was attending Venango Catholic High School. Father Salva-

Navy chaplain. He says serving the military community was a wonderful way to evangelize.

"You're still serving the people of God," Msgr. Malene says. "You minister to people and their families. The only difference is you're on a ship, so you live and work with your congregation."

He recalls a large congregation at the Naval Weapons Station in Charleston, S.C., where he celebrated three Masses every Sunday and taught 300 children in reli-

Pastor:

- Church of the Good Shepherd, West Middlesex

Parochial administrator:

- St. Michael, Emlenton

Parochial vicar:

- Christ the King, Houtzdale

Special ministry:

- Sacred Heart, Erie

Chaplain:

- Serra Club, Mercer County

Diocese of Erie:

- Presbyteral Council
- Vicar for Western Vicariate

Military:

- Chaplain school, Newport, R.I.

- 1st Marine Air Wing, El Torro, Calif.
- U.S.S. Coral Sea (CV 43), Alameda, Calif.
- Naval Weapons Stations, Charleston, S.C.
- 3rd Marine Air Wing, Okinawa, Japan
- Naval Training Command, Orlando, Fla.
- Destroyer Squadron 10, Norfolk, Va.
- U.S.S. Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), Norfolk, Va.
- Marine Corp Air Station, Yuma, Ariz.
- Naval Air Station, Sigonella, Sicily
- Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, Ga.
- 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, Calif.
- Naval Air Station Naples, Naples, Italy
- Naval Air Station Pax River, Patuxent River, Md.



40 YEARS

My Inspiration: "Psalm 139 was always my favorite. It helps me to keep myself calm and trust that God is always at my side. I also like John 17:18 — 'As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world.' I have been fortunate to travel to many places in my Navy days and still enjoy meeting people and being with them."

tore Luzzi encouraged him to attend college rather than enlist in the Navy.

"He asked all the seniors at the beginning of the year to give him three colleges and areas of study," Msgr. Malene recalls. "My choices were the University of Dayton, Gannon and Clarion. Why? Dayton was where my brother went; Gannon was close and Clarion was closer!"

His choices of study were engineering, science, and to fill in the third selection, he put priest. Father Luzzi told him he would write to the seminary for an application.

"The rest is history," Msgr. Malene says. "He did advise me, 'To try it. If you don't like it, you can always leave.'"

Msgr. Malene says his family has always been there for him, particularly in his early years as a priest. He also remembers the faith community of Christ the King Parish in Houtzdale, where he served his first priestly assignment from 1972-77.

"The people were very kind and supportive of me as a newly ordained priest," he says.

Msgr. Malene notes that he always wanted to join the Navy. He went to see Bishop Alfred Watson, who granted him permission. That began his 31-year career as a

religious education classes.

Later in the Navy, he met several priests who have helped him in his ministry. He still stays in touch with Father John Bosco Stoner, OSB, whom he says has been a true friend and mentor.

"The Navy priests were and still are great and holy priests," he says.



He returned to the Diocese of Erie in 2008, and he currently serves as pastor of Church of the Good Shepherd in West Middlesex.

Regarding the future of the Catholic Church, Msgr. Malene hopes "that people who profess to be Catholic really get on fire and excited about religion and God."

To our former weekend assistants, Fr. Whitman and Fr. Detisch: May God continue to bless you, now and always!

Congrats!
-Father Bill O'Brien and the parishioners of St. John, Girard

Congratulations to Sr. Kathryn Connolly, S.S.J. and all of our jubilarians who have served our parish so faithfully! - St. Joseph Bread of Life Community, Erie

& Bishop Trautman & Msgr. Robert Malene, Congratulations and Best Wishes!

- Msgr. Jan Olowin and the parish family of St. Michael, Emlenton

Rev. Msgr. Charles A. Kaza, V.G.

“My parents were so sincere and active in the practice of the faith,” says Msgr. Charles Kaza, vicar general for the Diocese of Erie, vicar for the Eastern Vicariate and pastor of St. Tobias Parish in Brockway. “They were so self-giving to my brothers and sisters and myself.” Msgr. Kaza’s family life apparently spilled over into the way he approached his elementary school studies as the Sisters of Mercy who staffed his parish school—along with parish priests—started encouraging him to consider the priesthood even before he entered high school.

Msgr. Kaza says one of the most important things the Catholic Church needs to address today is helping people develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

“Too frequently, faith is simply a series of rituals disconnected from life,” he says. “We face the challenge of assisting people in making that personal connection.” That’s the message at the heart of the foot washing story Msgr. Kaza offered as one of the Scripture passages that most inspires him.

Presented with the challenge of what topic he might select if he had just one more homily to give, Msgr. Kaza said he would preach on never giving up on God.

“God never gives up on us,” he says. “Hope, one of the three theological virtues, is so badly needed today. So many so quickly lose hope in God, themselves, family, friendship and, of course, church.” But he points to an alternative way of thinking.

“Our hope is solidly based in Christ and his mercy,” he says.

Msgr. Kaza, an avid speedwalker, can be found taking his morning walk after the daily 6:45 am Mass three to six days a week.

“That started in the early 1980s,” he says, “when I was at a parish in Erie and we were closed in for several days because of a snow-storm. I decided to take a quick walk to get some fresh air and I felt so much better that I decided to make it part of my routine.”

Friends, colleagues and parishioners also know Msgr. Kaza as a tireless ambassador for his hometown mascot, Punxsutawney Phil.

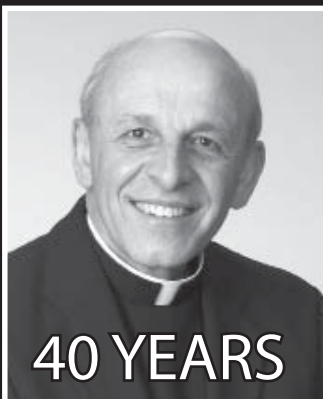
“In each of my assignments,” he admits, “people have been at least tolerant and usually interested in the legend.” He and the late Msgr. Conrad Kraus took the event to a whole new level with their famous Groundhog Day parties during their days at St. John the Baptist Parish in Erie.

Msgr. Kaza has served on the administrative cabinet of the diocese since Aug. 1, 1994.

“The first thing you learn is that the church is bigger than just one issue,” he says. “I give credit to Bishop Trautman who always keeps us thinking in terms of

the larger picture. Whether it’s budgets or programs, he helps us consider how our decisions will affect all 13 counties of the diocese.”

This year, Bishop Trautman surprised Msgr. Kaza by presenting him with a papal honor in conjunction with the celebration of both his jubilee and his assignment as vicar general for the Diocese of Erie. While he was named a monsignor in 1994, he now also holds the title, “Prelate of Honor of His Holiness.”



Pastor:

- St. Tobias, Brockway
- St. John the Baptist, Erie

Parochial vicar:

- St. John the Baptist, Erie
- Our Lady of Peace, Erie

Parochial administrator:

- Holy Cross, Brandy Camp

- St. Leo Magnus, Ridgway
- St. Mark, Emporium

Diocese of Erie:

- Vicar General
- Presbyteral Council
- Vicar, Eastern Vicariate
- Priests’ Personnel Board
- Bishop’s College of Consultors

My Inspiration: “Ever since studying John’s Gospel with the late Father Raymond Brown, I’ve been inspired by the text of John 13:1-15—the washing of the feet—as a way of connecting daily celebration of the Eucharist and daily ministry to God’s people.”

CONGRATULATIONS!

Bishop Donald Trautman - 50 years of Priestly Ordination

Msgr. Charles Kaza, V.G. - 40 years of Priestly Ordination

Fr. Noel Rothrauff, O.S.B. - 65 Years of Religious Profession

Sr. Monica Steiner, O.S.B. - 50 Years of Religious Profession

Many blessings to you on this most joyous occasion!



Queen of the World Church, St. Marys

GOD’S BLESSINGS TO:

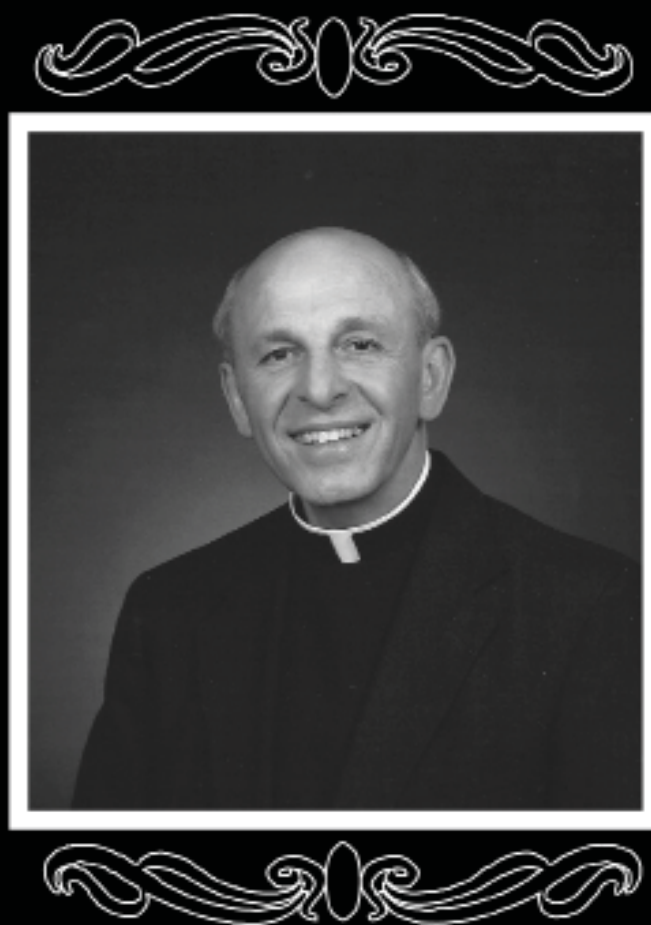
Bishop Donald Trautman
Msgr. Charles Kaza, our Episcopal Vicar
& Rev. William Kuba

FROM ST. CALLISTUS PARISH

Warmest congratulations and thanks
to our pastor, Msgr. Charles Kaza,
as you celebrate your
40th Anniversary to the Priesthood!



St. Tobias, Brockway



Mercyhurst University

congratulates these faithful servants
on their jubilee anniversaries and thanks them
for their dedication to the university.

- Sister Patricia Whalen, RSM*
- Sister Teresa Okonski, RSM*
- Sister Natalie Rossi, RSM*
- Sister Mary Felice Duska, RSM*
- Sister Donna Marie Orton, RSM*
- Sister Bernadette Bell, RSM*
- Sister Mary Paul Carioty, RSM*



Sr. Elizabeth Adams, O.S.B.

Living in Washington, D.C. and working at a senior citizen center, Sister Elizabeth Adams, OSB, had a persistent, deep-down feeling that God was calling her to do more with her life.

After much discernment, she says she felt called to Benedictine monastic life. She recalls the words of Thomas Merton who believed that monastic vocation is not chosen. "Instead, it picks you," Merton says.

"After living this monastic life for 25 years, I believe it did pick me," says Sister Elizabeth, better known as Sister Beth. "I believe my monastic vocation is to seek God each day and to live my monastic vows of stability, fidelity to the monastic way of life and obedience."

For 17 years, Sister Beth has served as lead teacher at St. Benedict Child Development Center in Erie. The center staff manages daycare, Head Start for migrant children and infant care programs. Sister Beth works with preschool children including those learning ESL (English as a Second Language).

"It's an important part of my job to help prepare them for kindergarten so that they'll be successful," Sister Beth says.

She also works with refugees on ESL. Recently, she has volunteered every Sunday for an hour or so with a couple from Bhutan that has been in the United States for nine months. They had previously been in a refugee camp in Nepal for 11 years.

Seniors also hold a special place in Sister Beth's heart. She is an annual volunteer at the senior citizen's summer camp run by SOME—So Others May Eat—for people 65 and over. SOME is a Washington, D.C.-based organization that feeds and clothes the homeless and poor, treats the ill and homeless through its health programs, trains people for jobs and houses homeless families and single adults.

25 YEARS



Benedictine Sisters of Erie:

- Benet Press, printer
- St. Benedict Day Care Center, teacher

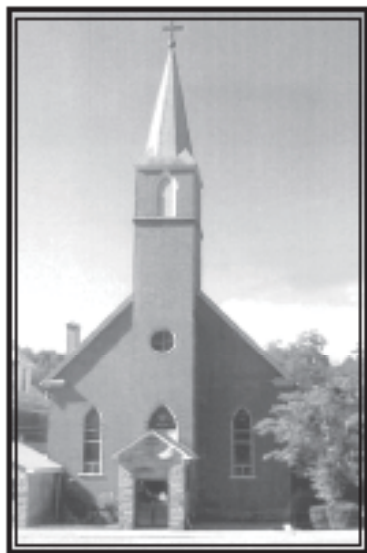
My Inspiration: "Do not be daunted immediately by fear and run away from the road that leads to salvation. It is bound to be narrow at the outset."
—Prologue from the Rule of Benedict

"As Benedictines, we offer hospitality to all," Sister Beth says. "I see reaching out to people as part of that. As St. Benedict would say, 'Welcome all as Christ.'"

Describing herself as a practical person, Sister Beth enjoys the very practical advice found in the Rule of Benedict. It reminds her to keep going despite life's difficulties and challenges and to find the joys and blessings in those moments.

"As Thich Nhat Hanh says, 'Life can be found only in the present moment. The past is gone, the future is not yet here, and if we do not go back to ourselves in the present moment, we cannot be in touch with life,'" Sister Beth says. "Living in the present moment is what I try to do; living in the present moment is what I cherish doing."

The parishioners of *St. Timothy Church (Curwensville)* and *St. Bonaventure Church (Grampian)* congratulate and offer their prayerful support to their pastor, **Father Mark J. Mastrian**, on the occasion of his **25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood** and **Bishop Donald W. Trautman** on his **50th anniversary of priesthood ordination**. May God bless you for your faithful service!



FR. SCOTT DETISCH
ordained a priest
April 24, 1987

25

The community of Holy Cross, Fairview offers deepest thanks and wholehearted best wishes to our Pastor, Fr. Scott. We appreciate hearing the voice of Christ through your 25 years of dedication and loving service to God's people.

Rev. Scott P. Detisch

Teaching theology has been a blessing in the priesthood of Father Scott Detisch. His area of specialty within systematic theology has been sacred theology.

"I see it of major importance for the Catholic intellectual tradition to help people recognize the sacramentality of their lives, let it lead them to the church and help them live their lives in fuller awareness of how God's presence pervades all that they experience," Father Detisch says.

He received his doctorate in systematic theology from Duquesne University in 1996. His dissertation topic was "Pope Paul VI's Mysterium Fidei: Bridging the Objective and Subjective Dimensions of Eucharistic Real Presence."

Father Detisch says the faith of his parents and his grandmother made awareness of God a very firm fixture in his life. Seeing dedicated and enthusiastic priests at his home parish of Our Lady of Peace as well as Cathedral Prep and Gannon University in Erie led him toward thoughts of the priesthood.

"They stirred in me a sense that being a priest was a very noble calling," he says.

He notes that he has long been inspired by the Sisters of St. Joseph who entered his life very early.

"They have always shown me that faith leads to commitment and to generous self-giving," Father Detisch says.

Later in his life, he was privileged to come to know the Benedictine Sisters of Erie.

"They have always inspired me as faith-filled and prophetic women of the church who live the mandate of Christ to care for the lost, the last and the least," he says.

Currently serving as pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Fairview, Father Detisch says he continues to be inspired by many priests and lay people whom he encounters in his journey who constantly show him what dedication, hope and discipleship are all about.

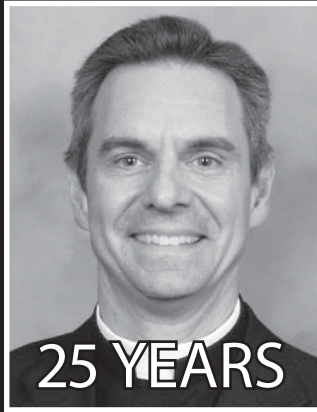
Father Detisch says the greatest gift for him as a priest has been the strong encouragement of spiritual directors who have always challenged him to attend to his interior life.

"They led me to make private, directed silent retreats every year in which the inner voice of God has become so vivid," he says. "This has helped me to deepen my sense of prayer and has generated a life-

giving connection to the spiritual life. This has been vital to my commitment to priesthood."

Among one of the most vital issues facing both Catholic people and the Catholic Church as a whole, he notes, is discovering how to engage those who are somewhat committed and to re-engage those who have disengaged from the church.

"Every family struggles with these issues and every parish keeps recognizing engagement as a priority," he says. "We will need to be creative in our efforts, all the while holding onto the hope that the Holy Spirit is doing far more than what can be seen in our efforts."



Pastor:

- Holy Cross, Fairview

Parochial vicar:

- St. Joseph, Sharon

Sacramental assistant:

- St. John the Evangelist, Girard
- St. John the Baptist, Erie
- St. Boniface, Erie
- St. Andrew, Erie
- Our Lady, Queen of the Americas, Conneaut Lake

Diocese of Erie:

- Priests' Personnel Board

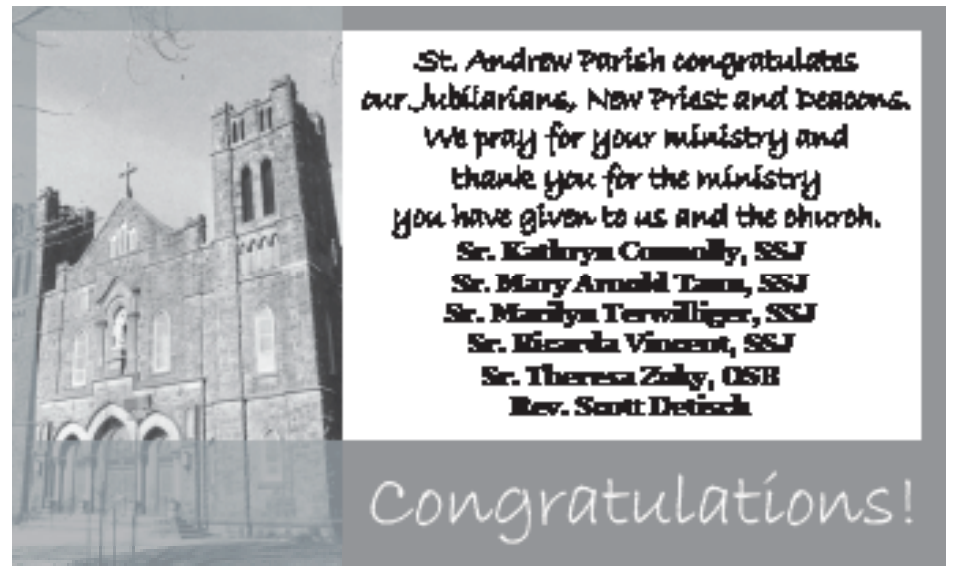
Theology faculty:

- Gannon University, Erie
- Christ the King Seminary, East Aurora, N.Y.

Adjunct theology professor:

- St. Mary Seminary, Wycliffe, Ohio

My Inspiration: "I continue to be both captivated and inspired by the figure of John the Baptist, whose whole life was about pointing the way to Christ. I love the passage (John 3:29-30) where John sees himself as the best man to Jesus, who is the bridegroom. John remarks that the best man 'rejoices' to hear the voice of the groom. Then John says 'So this joy of mine has been made complete. (Christ) must increase; I must decrease.'"



Rev. Mark J. Mastrian

Father Mark Mastrian's greatest inspiration and joy as a priest is the celebration of the Eucharist.

"It's inspiring for me to see the people active and fully participating at Mass," he says.

A native of Holy Redeemer Parish in Warren, Father Mastrian currently serves as the pastor of St. Timothy Parish in Curwensville and St. Bonaventure Parish in Grampian.

He credits a number of influences that have inspired and developed his prayer life over the years as well as his call to the priesthood, which began in college. They include a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, praying the sacred Scriptures, receiving Jesus in the Eucharist and the Christian example of his fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

"Since my first years in seminary, the rosary and prayer of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary have been a source of personal blessings for me," Father Mastrian says. "Praying the words of sacred Scripture have strengthened my faith and brought me peace."

Connected to his priesthood are many people who have inspired him on his path of life including his faithful and loving parents and family, his brother priests and a multitude of people from the parishes where he has served. Father Mastrian says he is enlivened by the people involved with the diocesan Charismatic Renewal and is continually motivated by the life of Blessed John Paul II.

"The words and melodies of sacred music during Mass and in other praise and worship settings always inspire me and bring me much joy," he adds.

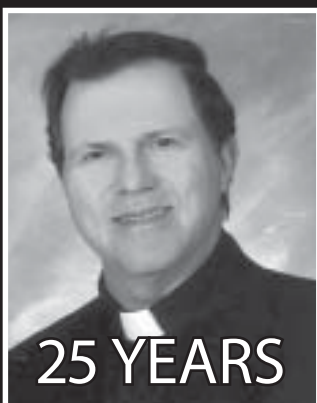
As part of his priesthood, Father Mastrian notes the importance of developing one's spiritual life.

"Everyone needs to devote time and energy to their spiritual life because of

Jesus' promise to us of eternal life," he says.

He offers that daily prayer, the rosary, the Divine Mercy chaplet, other Catholic devotional prayers and praying the sacred Scriptures are powerful ways of getting closer to God.

"The most important way to grow in one's spiritual life is to receive Jesus, the Bread of Life, at Mass," Father Mastrian says.



Pastor:

- St. Timothy, Curwensville
- St. Bonaventure, Grampian

Parochial administrator:

- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sykesville

Parochial vicar:

- St. Joseph, Oil City
- St. Catherine of Siena, DuBois

- Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg
- Immaculate Conception, Osceola Mills

Sacramental assistant:

- St. Joseph, Oil City

Chaplain:

- Polk Center

My Inspiration: "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."
 – John 15:7-8 [Also John 15:14-17]

The priests, deacons and faithful of St. Jude the Apostle Church praise and thank our God for the ministry of all of our Jubilarians; especially, those who once served us...

Rev. Scott Detisch

(25 years)

Rev. Tom Whitman

(25 years)

Msgr. Robert Barcio

(65 years)



© Paula Maske 2012

Congratulations Sr. Suzanne Thibault! God Bless YOU!

Thank you for your many years of service to the youth and poor as a faithful servant of Young People Who Care.



The parish family of St. Columbkille, Stoneboro and Polk Center congratulate our Shepherd, Bishop Donald W. Trautman on the 50th anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood and former Polk Center chaplains, Fr. Mark Mastrian and Sr. Rita Lynch, M.H.S.H., on their Jubilee anniversaries.

God bless you for your faithful service!



Sr. Anne McCarthy, O.S.B.

25 YEARS



Saint Vincent Hospital:

- Nurse

Pax Christi, USA:

- National director
- Publications Department

Gannon University:

- Center for Social Concerns, director

Benedictine Sisters of Erie:

- Benetvision, assistant director and administrative assistant

- Communications, assistant director
- Alliance for International Monasticism (AIM), special projects
- Camp Glinodo, assistant director
- Retreat leader, religious communities and parishes
- Monasteries of the Heart, staff member

My Inspiration: "We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world. We repeat, there is nothing that we can do but love, and, dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbor, to love our enemy as well as our friend." – Dorothy Day

These days, Sister Anne McCarthy, OSB, begins her morning at Mary the Apostle Catholic Worker House on East 22nd Street in Erie with coffee and a book—when it's quiet.

She lives there with six others including Molly, a L'Arche community assistant; Jess and Matthew, a young couple who has two children, 5-year-old Brigid and John, an inquisitive toddler; and Lisa, a friend with developmental disabilities, who gets to work each day on the LIFT pickup.

Sister Anne joins three other Benedictine Sisters of Erie who live on the block for morning prayer before heading to her ministries with Benetvision and Monasteries of the Heart. Later there might be neighborhood gardening or a meeting at Mount St. Benedict Monastery or a peace demonstration.

When she made her monastic profession, Sister Anne says she did not envision the form of life she lives now.

"Living at the Catholic Worker House keeps me very connected in the neighborhood," she says. "Choosing to live with non-Benedictines, at this point, was unusual. We're considered a family living under the L'Arche umbrella. I was always a friend of L'Arche, but this is a closer connection."

The impetus for Mary the Apostle Catholic Worker was to be a Benedictine and Gospel presence in the neighborhood, especially to children. The house offers gardening for youngsters. This summer marks the sixth year of the children learning how to plant and harvest different vegetables.

After working as an emergency room nurse at Saint Vincent Hospital, (now Saint Vincent Health System), Sister Anne committed herself to peace and justice work. At Pax Christi USA—a national Catholic peace organization—she served on staff for nine years, including three as national coordinator.

"For me, peace and justice are very integrated within the monastic life and the Gospel life," she says.

She says she feels connected with a number of issues including anti-war, world peace and ending torture.

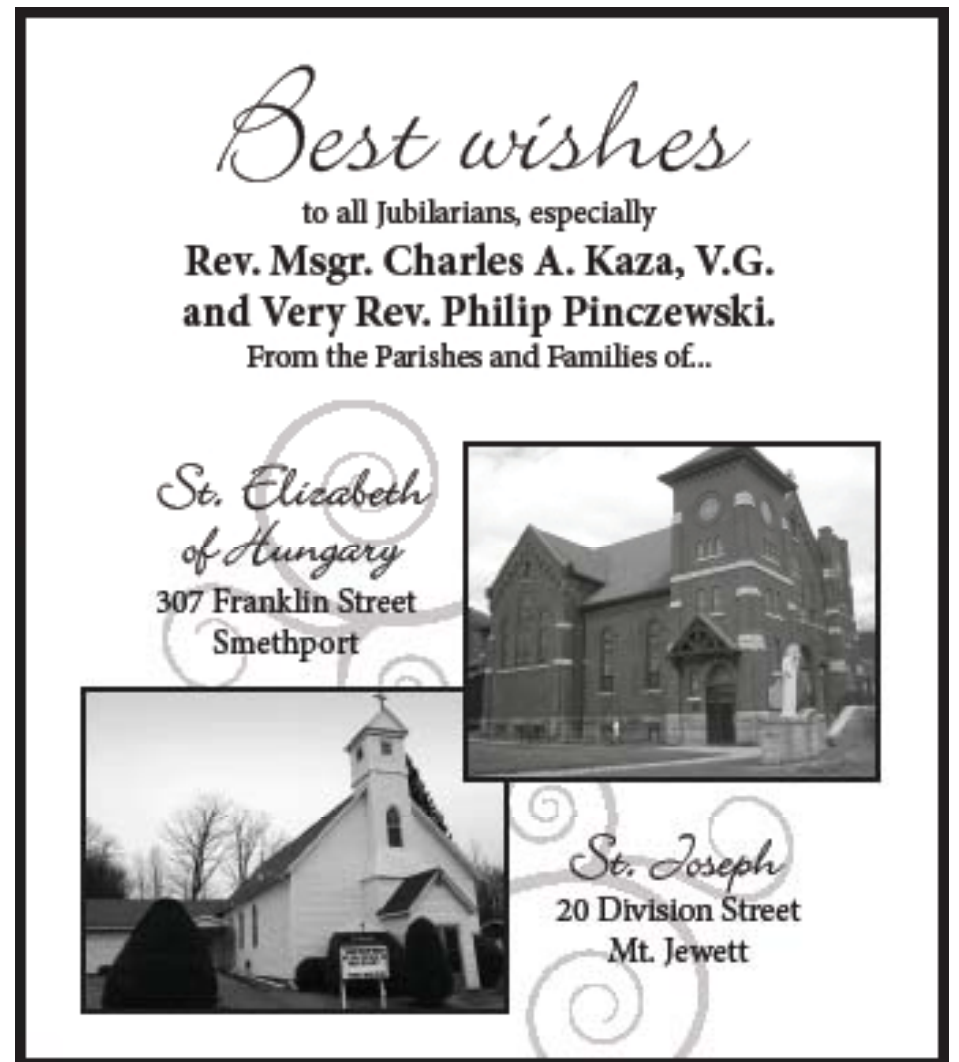
A staff member of Benetvision, Sister Anne leads a variety of retreats both in

the Diocese of Erie and nationally on themes of non-violence and monastic spirituality. She has also developed a retreat modeled on the spiritual exercises of St. Gertrude.

With Monasteries of the Heart, an outreach of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, she is involved with stretching the boundaries of monastic life to new forms for the future. Sister Anne says the movement assists seekers in becoming part of a community—either online or onsite with others—in shaping their spiritual lives around Benedictine values.

Not bound by geography, she describes the online communities as "monasteries without walls" that gather for prayer, discussion and reflection. Membership now totals 4,700 with new members joining daily.

"I've learned a lot in a little more than a year," Sister Anne says. "I correspond mostly by e-mail with a number of online leaders. For most of the people, they've never met and never will meet. They're meeting in a very intentional way to grow their spiritual life. It's new, it's challenging, but it's amazing."



Very Rev. Philip A. Pinczewski

For Father Philip Pinczewski, the joys of his priesthood are found when he is simply present to others.

He relishes the opportunity to meet new people and seeing their hunger for the Eucharist and sacraments.

“Visiting people in the hospital or nursing home who are finding their way back to the church through reconciliation, it’s very uplifting,” Father Pinczewski says. “Meeting with families at the time of death of a loved one, they’re ripe for opening up themselves to the presence of God in their lives. As a priest, you’re the instrument through which God can work to reach people.”

A native of Holy Trinity Parish in Erie, he recollects entering St. Mark Seminary in Erie where he saw priests who freely gave their time, talent and effort to help people come closer to the Lord.

“I noticed the call and vocation expressed in the lives of the priests on staff, and it attracted me to continue on,” he says.

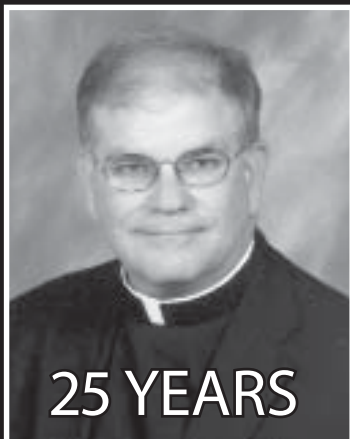
Father Pinczewski has served a number of parish communities throughout the Diocese of Erie. In 1997, he was named pastor of St. Callistus Parish in Kane where he currently serves.

In his years at St. Callistus, he has helped lead the parish through a number of construction projects, including a renovation of the church and building a religious education center and mausoleum chapel.

“People have been very receptive,” he says of parishioners. “I was helped by the leadership that was already here. I’m impressed with the way they’ve taken things and just run with them. They support our programs by their interest and attendance.”

Father Pinczewski says one of his priorities as a priest is to help people know their faith better and continue to learn.

“It’s something we might take for granted,” he says. “We have to understand Scripture and connect it to the heart. Then we can begin to touch other hearts more including the people we work with in the world.”



Pastor:

- St. Callistus, Kane

Parochial vicar:

- St. Agatha, Meadville
- Notre Dame, Hermitage
- Holy Family, Erie

Priest in residence:

- St. Ann, Erie

Diocese of Erie:

- Presbyteral Council
- Priests’ Personnel Board
- Dean, Bradford Deanery
- Ecumenical officer, Eastern Vicariate

My Inspiration: “But as it is written: ‘What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him,’ this God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God. Among human beings, who knows what pertains to a person except the spirit of the person that is within? Similarly, no one knows what pertains to God except the Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the things freely given us by God.” – 1 Corinthians 2:9-12



St. Callistus Parish Family
congratulates
Fr. Philip A. Pinczewski
on his
25th
Ordination Anniversary!

Sr. Suzanne Thibault, C.A.

When Sister Suzanne Thibault, CA, made her final vows as a member of the Community of Anawim, she had to select a life motto to be engraved on the inside of the ring she received. She chose, “My God and my all,” an adaptation of St. Thomas’ exclamation upon encountering the risen Jesus: “My Lord and my God.”

“The motto is my whole direction, my whole energy of life, an expression of my love of God,” Sister Suzanne explains. “It’s about where I have come from and where I am going.” Woven into the fabric of her life, she says the phrase sustains her through times of rejoicing as well as times of challenge.

Aspects of her vocation came into focus for Sister Suzanne during high school, when she was a member of the Key Club.

“I fell in love with service,” she says, of her experience with the international student-led organization committed to service, character and leadership.

During those years she was also drawn to various aspects of spirituality: the service and simplicity of St. Francis, the holy work of Benedict and the prayer lives of St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Avila.

“I’ve always had an attraction to working with those who have unmet needs,” she observes, “and when I learned about the Anawim, it seemed to me that God brought me to exactly the place where he had worked out my happiness and a life filled with joy.”

Sister Suzanne says “many wonderfully holy people” have led her to God and taught her not only about faith but also about trust in God’s promises, including Father Jerry Simmons and Father James Peterson. But she points to Sister Therese Dush, founder of the Community of Anawim, as the person who has provided the most inspiration.

“I have learned that God desires a personal relationship with me through her witness of that intimate relationship with the beloved,” she says. “I have learned a love for the poor and a basic belief in the dignity of all people with whom we come into contact,

as though they are the reflection of God among us.” Sister Suzanne also says she has come to rely on the truth that God will not be outdone in generosity.

“God gives back double the measure that we share,” she asserts. “Over and over again I have experienced that within the Community of Anawim and our ministries.”

A native of Beverly, N.J., Sister Suzanne was one of nine children of Henriette and the late Reni Thibault. As director of the youth program at the Bethany Youth Center in Frenchville, she welcomes more than 2,000 young people each year for retreats or week-long service-learning experiences in rural Pennsylvania—an area many are surprised to learn is part of the Appalachian region. She also leads as many as 60 retreats each year, sometimes at the community’s retreat center, sometimes at parishes and high schools in the Diocese of Erie and beyond.



25 YEARS

Director:

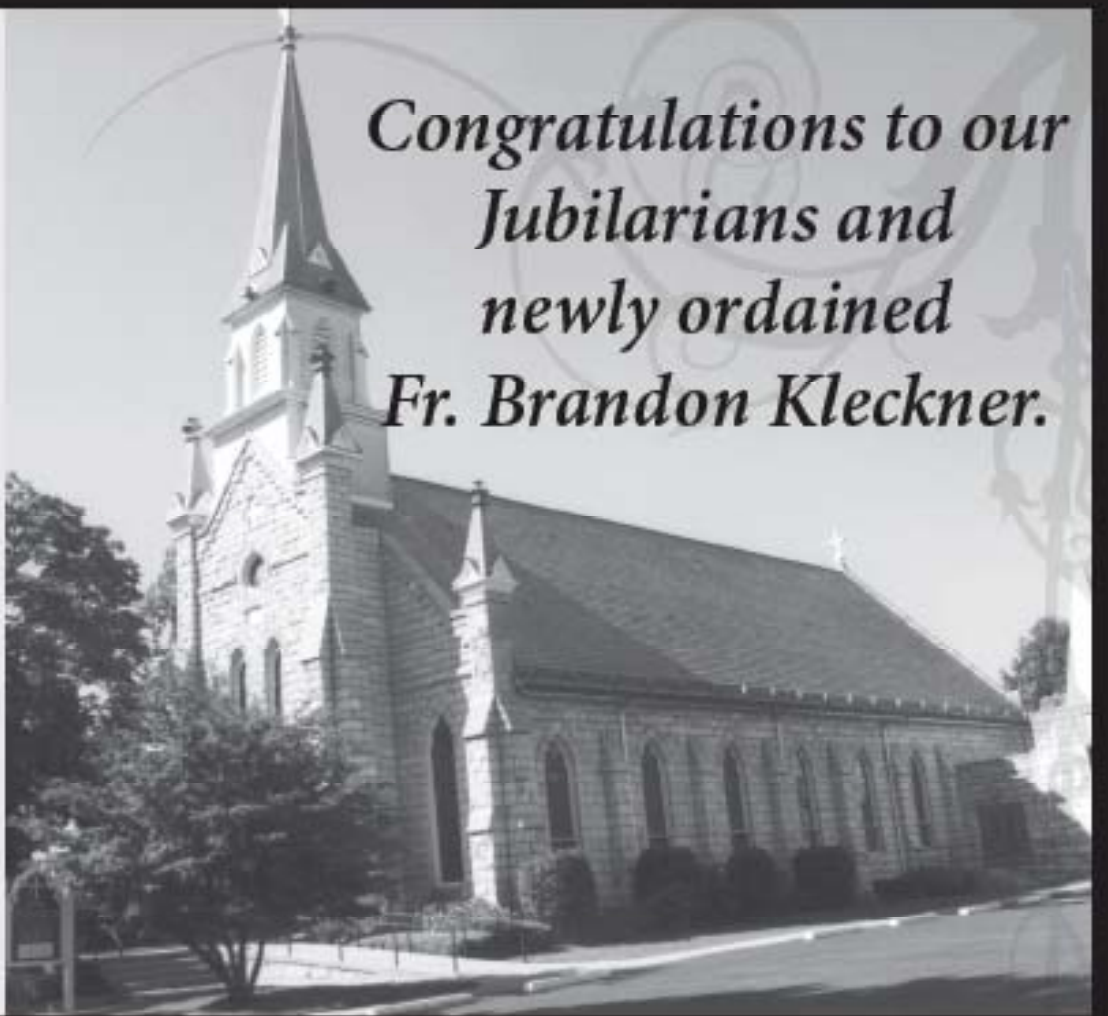
- Bethany Youth Center program, Frenchville
- Direct ministry to the poor:**
- Young People Who Care Center, Frenchville

My Inspiration: “I love how Jesus reveals himself to me through Scripture, especially in the last judgment found in Matthew 25: 31-46. The call to service is the call to love Jesus in the persons we have in front of us.”

Msgr. Robert G. Barcio
Sr. Mary Arnold Tann, S.S.J.
Sr. Marilyn Terwilliger, S.S.J.
Rev. Dennis C. Hadberg
Msgr. Charles A. Kaza, V.G.
Sr. Suzanne Thibault, C.A.
Deacon William Wright

St. Francis of Assisi
Clearfield

*Congratulations to our
Jubilarians and
newly ordained
Fr. Brandon Kleckner.*



Rev. Thomas J. Whitman

As an eighth grader at Our Lady of Peace School in Erie, Father Thomas Whitman remembers Sister Rebecca Ann Costa, SSJ, taking him aside one day.

"You should consider being a priest," she told him.

After a few months of praying, thinking, receiving little hints and even making a deal with God, Father Whitman says he knew he was being called to the priesthood.

"I had asked God to give me a sign," he says. "The first thing that came to mind was a scene from the movie, 'Monty Python and the Holy Grail,' where the sky opens up and a golden chalice appears in the sky. I told God, 'If someone gives me a chalice, then I will be a priest.'"

A few months prior to that, the OLP boys' basketball team was involved in city, diocesan and state championship tournaments. Before each big game, Sister Rebecca Ann, Sister Josephine DePetro, SSJ, and a young man named Mike Krill, who is now a Franciscan priest, arranged for Father Raymond Gramata to celebrate Mass for the team with a pizza party afterwards. Krill made a ceramic chalice for the group to use and it had the names of all the team members on the bottom.

When Krill left to enter the Franciscans that spring, he left a package for Father Whitman. It was the chalice he had made.

As a sophomore at Cathedral Prep, he was asked by Father Frank Przepierski if he wanted to visit St. Mark Seminary. A few weeks later he did. The rest, he says, happened when he took hold of that calling to see where it would take him.

"My own willingness to follow that call today is really still rooted in the fact that this is something God asked me to do," Father Whitman says. "It is not something I would have chosen for myself without his rather strong prompting. I have to keep trusting that his plan is much wiser and much more fulfilling than anything I could have come up with on my own. The more I trust his plan, the more incredible the life I am privileged to live. It has taken me places and allowed me to experience things I never could have imagined and done things I never thought I could do. When Jesus speaks of giving us the fullness of life, I know quite well what he means."

Father Whitman has served at a number of parishes in the diocese. As pastor of St. Cyprian Parish in Waterford and St. Matthew in the Woods Parish in Erie, he oversaw the merger of the two faith communities in 2005. They combined to form All Saints Parish, where he currently serves as pastor.

He says his parents had the greatest influence on him in terms of faith, noting that their lives dedicated to family, prayer and service to others has always been a model and an inspiration for him.

Other inspiring figures have influenced his life. Sister Rebecca Ann remains a trusted friend and has been a spiritual companion to him over the years. Father Przepierski taught him that priests were human and not perfect. His cousin, Father Glenn Whitman, has been a source of wisdom who has challenged him to broaden his horizons. Father Joseph Riccardo, who shared his experiences, helped him learn the ropes as a young priest.

Of the many vital issues facing Catholics today, Father Whitman says among the most important is the fundamental issue of lumping all our experiences into one basket.

"We don't seem to be able to see any difference between going to a football game and going to a wedding or a funeral," he says. "It's just another thing that we do. We don't dress differently, we don't act differently. We seem to think that all our experiences are beige—nothing is really too exciting or meaningful. Maybe that is because we are led to believe there is no meaning in what we do. I believe there is a need for people to have real experiences of God, whether in prayer, retreats or simply in personal experiences from life. Without that experience of God, God is simply one more thing in a very cluttered life."



25 YEARS

Pastor:

- All Saints, Waterford
- St. Cyprian, Waterford
- St. Matthew in the Woods, Erie

Parochial vicar:

- St. Jude the Apostle, Erie
- St. Joseph, Warren

Sacramental assistant:

- St. John the Evangelist, Girard

Secondary education:

- Cathedral Prep, Erie

Diocese of Erie:

- Presbyteral Council
- Clergy Continuing Education, director and committee member

My Inspiration: "The Passion narratives—the stories of Jesus' suffering and death—are my favorite. I think they are the most neglected part of the Scriptures and yet they give us the most detail of his life, and particularly, life in the most difficult of circumstances. They speak volumes about the struggles we face in our own lives and the hope that he brings to us."

Deacon William Wright, 10 years

Rev. Mark Mastrian, 25 years

Rev. Msgr. Charles Kaza, V.G., 40 years

"I am the vine, you are the branches." (John 15:5)

Rev. Dennis Hadberg, 40 years

Sr. Mary Felice Duska, RSM, 60 years

Sr. Donna Marie Orton, RSM, 60 years

Sr. Mary Paul Corkoty, RSM, 60 years

Sr. Bernadette Bell, RSM, 60 years

To our most seasoned servants and the newest growth, **THANK YOU** for all you do today and have done throughout the years.

Congratulations!

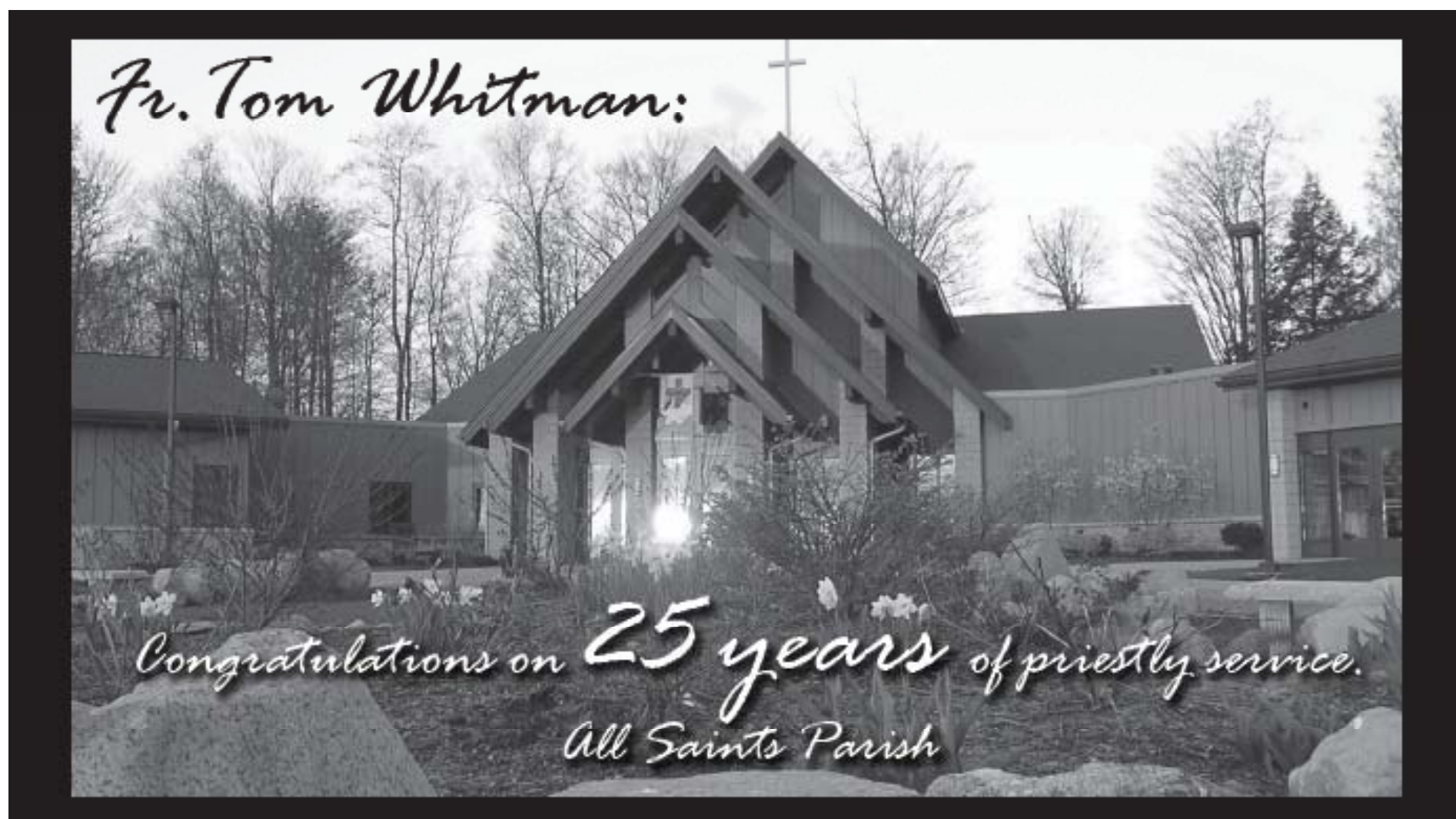
St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois

Blessings and Congratulations to

Rev. Thomas Whitman

on your Jubilee!

From the clergy, staff and parishioners of St. Joseph Church in Warren



Congratulations Jubilarians!

Msgr. James Peterson
Rev. Msgr. William Biebel
Sr. Natalie Rossi, RSM
Rev. Dennis Hadberg
Deacon William Sproveri

Sr. Ricarda Vincent, SSJ
Rev. William Kuba
Rev. Msgr. Bruce Allison
Deacon Dennis Kudlak



De Colores

**From the Cursillo Movement
of the Diocese of Erie**



Rev. Paul Masson, M.M.



40 YEARS

Father Paul Masson, M.M., a native of Oil City, is celebrating his 40th anniversary as a Maryknoll missionary.

"I am very grateful for the opportunities that I have had to share the lives of many people who endured great suffering, but did not cease to struggle for justice and full participation in society," says Father Masson, reflecting on his mission career. "My faith has been enriched and strengthened through this experience."

After ordination on May 27, 1972, he was assigned to Chile to serve in a poor working-class area of the city of Talca in the central valley. Moving to Santiago, he served as the national chaplain of MOANI, the International Movement of the Apostolate of Children, which also collaborated with the World Movement of Christian Workers and the Young Christian Workers movement. During his time in Santiago, Father Masson also served in two parishes: Our Lady of the Poor in the Northern slums of Santiago and Our Lady of Victory in the Población La Victoria.

Father Masson returned to the United States in 1992 to work in vocation ministry in St. Louis, Mo., and then Houston, Texas. In 1998, he began pastoral work in Ciudad Juarez in Chihuahua, Mexico, as part of the Maryknoll Border Team. The ministry of the Border Team is focused on the needs of families impacted by poverty and drug wars. In Ciudad, Father Masson also served as pastor of Our Lady of the Light Parish. In 2008, he returned to the Maryknoll Mission Center. He was elected assistant general of Maryknoll's General Council and was appointed director of admissions.

Father Masson attended Rouseville Grade School in Rouseville and graduated from St. Joseph High School in Oil City. He holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Maryknoll College, Glen Ellyn, Ill., and a Master of Divinity degree from Maryknoll Seminary, Ossining (1972).

An anniversary Mass was celebrated July 29 at St. Venantius Parish in Rouseville.

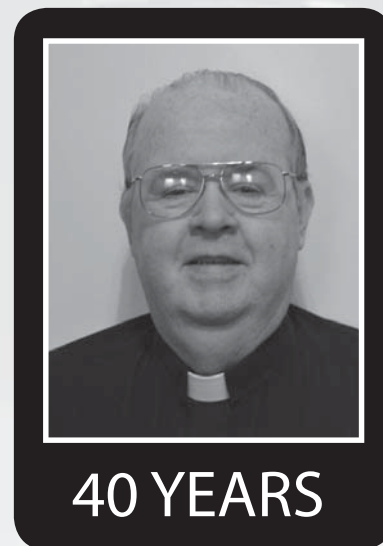
Rev. John McGowan, C.Ss.R.



50 YEARS

Father John McGowan, C.Ss.R., was born March 8, 1936 in Brooklyn, NY, and first professed vows as a Redemptorist on August 2, 1957. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 17, 1962. From 1965-80 he taught at the Redemptorists' high school seminary, St. Mary's in North East. He served as associate pastor at the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Brooklyn from 1980 until 1984 when he was named pastor. He became pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Church/Shrine of St. John Neumann in 1990 where he served for six years. Since 1996, Father McGowan has served as a part-time mission preacher and a retreat director at the Redemptorists' San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, N.J.

Rev. Thomas Sullivan, C.Ss.R.



40 YEARS

Father Thomas Sullivan, C.Ss.R., was born Aug. 5, 1946 in Brighton, Mass. He first professed vows as a Redemptorist on Aug. 2, 1965 and was ordained to the priesthood on June 18, 1972. He spent five years as associate pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Baltimore, Md., before returning to his high school alma mater, the Redemptorists' St. Mary's Seminary in North East, to teach.

In 1982, he was assigned to the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Mission Church) in Boston, and in 1983 he became a professor at the Redemptorists' St. Alphonsus College in Suffield, Conn. In 1990 he was appointed associate pastor, and later pastor, of St. Patrick's in Enfield, Conn., where he remained until 2005 when he returned to Sacred Heart of Jesus in Baltimore. In 2007, he was assigned to the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help—The Mission Church in Boston.

Bishop Donald W. Trautman
All Priests, Deacons &
Sisters

Celebrating 2012 Anniversaries

Saint Brigid Church, Mendville

Rev. Brandon M. Kleckner Newly ordained priest puts trust in God for his mission

As Father Brandon Kleckner grew into his vocation, his family was growing in the Catholic faith right along with him.

His parents, Neal Kleckner and Cathy Runstedler, weren't raised Catholic, but they sent him and his siblings to the former Sacred Heart School in Erie. They chose a Catholic school because they wanted a good education for their children in a safe environment.

"I went through the sacraments at school," Father Kleckner says. "My parents went through RCIA at different times. When I was first thinking about the priesthood, they were supportive. All this was new to them, and they learned and grew along with me. They're happy with me and for me."

In one sense, it was Father Kleckner's ordination, but it was also a larger celebration for his family.

Bishop Donald Trautman ordained Father Kleckner to the priesthood June 8, 2012 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie. Father Kleckner is assigned to St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Clearfield where he served as a transitional deacon.

Father Kleckner's first exposure to the priesthood was at school where he witnessed the example of the late Father David Findlay, who served as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish from 1989-2002.

"He was just a very holy and prayerful good man, and I always admired him," he says. "I always thought, 'How does a good man become a priest?' This guy that I really looked up to was a priest, and I wanted to be like this man."

Being an altar server and a Boy Scout helped to further form Father Kleckner in the faith. During his freshman year at Villa Maria Academy in Erie, he heard a talk on the priesthood from Father Mark Hoffman, who served as the diocese's director of vocations at the time.

"I had this experience growing up being fascinated by the faith and then was proposed with the idea that I could possibly become a priest myself," Father Kleckner says. "Throughout high school there was a deepening of my faith and in the back of my head, there was a fascination with the priesthood."

One of the highlights of his vocation journey was traveling to Toronto in 2002 for World Youth Day. More than 800,000 young pilgrims from around the world attended the event, which would end up being Blessed John Paul II's last appearance at a World Youth Day event.

"Seeing John Paul II was an incredible encounter," he recalls. "Up until that point, living out my faith didn't go beyond the church walls. That was the church for me. At World Youth Day, it was an explosion of church. Being around so many young Catholics was inspiring and enriching for me. Priests were everywhere promoting vocations."

Many things fascinated him during his senior year, he said. He had an array of ideas of what he wanted to be and do. He entertained many things ranging from meteorologist to disc jockey to priest. Through prayer, he decided to enter St. Mark Seminary in Erie.

"When I entered, I had no idea where I'd end up on the other side," Father Kleckner remembers. "It was, day by day, week by week, year by year. I had to recommit myself. 'Am I called to be here? Am I in the right place?' Those are questions you take to prayer every day."

Falling in love with God more and more every day, Father Kleckner said God's hand was pulling him along throughout his seminary discernment.

"I felt at peace," he says. "I grew a lot in my spiritual life and my faith. There was an awareness that this is what I was called to do."

During seminary, he was buoyed by a strong support system of brother seminarians, his family and pastors.

It was at his home parish that he developed a strong devotion to

the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

"It's a strong image for me in prayer," he says.

One of his favorite Scripture passages comes from the end of the sixth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew.

"Jesus talks about dependence on God and not worrying about all the details of life because God takes care of us," he says. "He uses the image of God taking care of the birds in the sky, the wildflowers and the grass of the field. It's about abandoning ourselves to God, trusting in God and knowing in the end that God will take care of us. I go back to this passage a lot, particularly on days when I want to take control of things."

Father Kleckner says he sees the priesthood today as a two-fold job.

"At one point, the priest has to catechize and present the truth of the faith," he says. "At the same time, he has to show the people how to internalize those truths. So much of the treasure and beauty of the church requires the whole heart, the whole soul. We need to teach people to take the faith on as a whole, not just believe parts of the doctrine. We have to help them go the next step and flesh out those truths in their own lives."

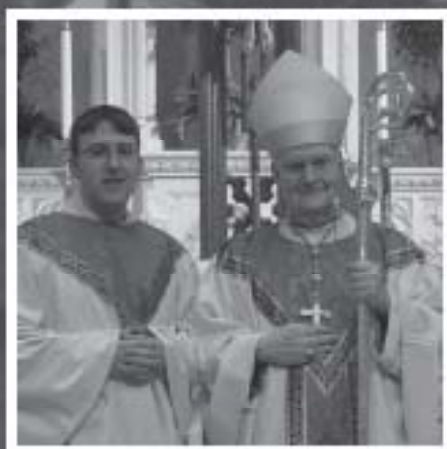
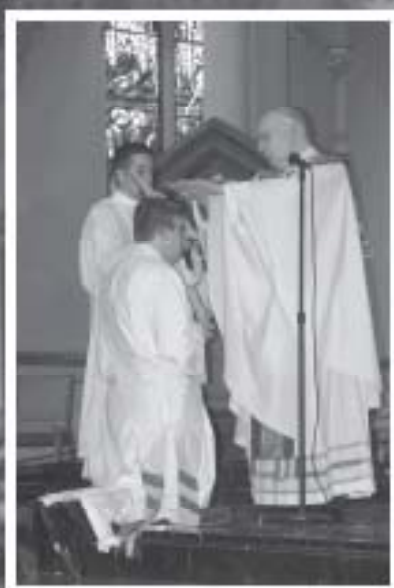


(Top to bottom) Father Kleckner lays prostrate on the cathedral floor during the Litany of Saints. This posture symbolizes the priesthood candidate's total surrender and dependence on Christ. "For me it was a very meaningful part of the ordination ceremony," Father Kleckner says.

Father Brandon Kleckner poses with members of his family following ordination.

Through the imposition of Bishop Donald Trautman's hands, Father Brandon Kleckner receives the gift of priesthood. During the laying on of hands, the gift of the Holy Spirit is asked to come upon the priesthood candidate in abundance. This, with the prayer of ordination, signifies the conferral and reception of the sacrament of holy orders from Christ, through the bishop, to the priest.

*"You did not choose me,
but I chose you."
John 15:16*



**Congratulations Rev. Brandon Kleckner!
We are all so proud of you!**

*Love, Mom, Ron, Dad, Allie, Sarah, Jacob, Nicole,
Shane, Roxanne and your Grandparents*



Deacon William Brown



10 YEARS

Deacon assistant:
• St. Michael, Greenville

My Inspiration: "I am most inspired in my ministry by Romans 8:28-30 — 'We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined he also called; and those he called he also justified; and those he justified he also glorified.'"

"I know that I am in ministry through no merit of my own but by the grace of God," Deacon William Brown says. "I believe that we are in ministry to carry out a mission that God has planned for us, never really knowing what it is for sure but trusting that he will lead us where we need to go."

Deacon Brown was ordained to the permanent diaconate April 26, 2002 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie. He serves his home parish of St. Michael in Greenville as a deacon assistant.

"I had always felt a call to ministry," he says.

He first noticed it in elementary school and later in high school. He put the call on the back burner after considering the priesthood. After getting married, starting a family and changing jobs, he began to think about becoming a deacon. He met with Msgr. Robert Smith, the director of the diocese's permanent diaconate program at the time, who advised him to pray about it.

"And I did," Deacon Brown says. "The moment that I decided to answer the call with a 'yes,' it was as if a load was lifted from my shoulders and God was saying, 'Finally, you heard me.'"

He says he's been blessed by having many good people in his life who have helped him in his faith journey. Among them are Msgr. Henry Schauerman, whom he says "epitomizes a great priest," Father Paul Schill, "a great friend and mentor," he notes and Father Joseph Czarkowski, whom he calls "a lifelong friend who taught me how to live the faith in every aspect of my life."

Deacon Dennis Kudlak

Deacon Dennis Kudlak says that before he and his wife, Lynn, made a Cursillo (No. 131) and prior to his becoming a deacon candidate, they seemed to put their energies into creating strategies for survival and even God was overlooked.

"But after we made our Cursillo, we discovered the difference between living by strategy and living by faith," Deacon Kudlak says. "I have no doubt that the Holy Spirit guided us into the diaconate formation program."

He was ordained a deacon April 26, 2002 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie. He serves as a deacon assistant at his home parish of Blessed Sacrament in Erie.

As a professional airline pilot for the past 25 years, Deacon Kudlak is away from home three to four days a week.

"My work and ministry schedule can really become a nightmare and a balancing act," he says.

However, after his ordination he says he is more aware of how important his family and parish community are to him.

"The Lord abundantly blesses my daily routine so I can make a difference in the lives of the people I encounter," he says.

He notes that the call to service underpins the new evangelization which Pope Benedict XVI promotes, adding that deacons can be crucial in helping the movement advance.

"The new evangelization will have a distinct characteristic, which is the Gospel as a lived reality in our families and our workplaces," Deacon Kudlak says. "Deacons are a visible way of living their faith in the family environment."

Among the most vital issues facing Catholics today, he says, is the need to be better catechized in the teachings of the faith.

"I believe there is a need for Catholics to live fully and joyfully the truths of the Catholic faith, without apology, and in a way that attracts others to the life and beauty of the

truth," he says. "Catholics belong to a family that transcends their national identity and is not a philosophical debating society but founded in Jesus Christ, grounded in revelation."



10 YEARS

Deacon assistant:
• Blessed Sacrament, Erie
Chaplain:
• Presbyterian Lodge, Erie

My Inspiration: "I have a great love for what I do and love being part of the church. Whenever I have any doubts, this passage from 1 Thessalonians 5:11, 13, 15-18 inevitably sustains me and God inevitably finds ways to let me know if I'm on the right track: 'Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, as indeed you do... and to show esteem for them with special love on account of their work. Be at peace among yourselves... See that no one returns evil for evil; rather, always seek what is good [both] for each other and for all. Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.'"

Deacon William Sproveri

Deacon William Sproveri says his call to the permanent diaconate was a gift to him from God that would bring all things into focus.

"I had, for a long time, felt that God was calling me to a vocation," Deacon Sproveri says. "My ongoing willingness to follow this call comes from the affirmation I receive from those to whom I minister. I believe God has me right where God wants me."



10 YEARS

Deacon assistant:

- St. Thomas the Apostle, Corry
- St. Elizabeth, Corry

My Inspiration: "My favorite Scripture verse comes from John 13:14 — 'If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet.' It was on Holy Thursday while watching Msgr. Swoger washing the feet of the faithful that I knew what God wanted me to do, and God affirms me in my everyday life many times over."

He was ordained a permanent deacon April 26, 2002 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

His home parish is St. Luke in Youngsville. He currently serves the Catholic community of Corry as a deacon assistant at St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Elizabeth parishes.

He first learned about the diaconate from a friend, Deacon Joe Lucia, who was in the formation program at the time. After meeting with Msgr. John Swoger, who served as his pastor at the time, and discussing it with his wife, Pat, he decided to apply.

"I firmly believe that God called Pat at the same time I was called," he says. "I could not be successful in this ministry without her love, prayers and support."

He says he's also grateful for the many others who have been involved in his formation. They include Msgr. Robert Smith, Msgr. James Peterson, Sister Rita Panciera, RSM, Father Jerry Simmons, Sister Therese Dush, CA, Father Bill Miller and Father Walter Packard.

"To all of them and others who have helped me along the way, I will be eternally grateful," Deacon Sproveri says.

If he had just one more homily to give, he says it would be on prayer.

"Prayer is how I have formed and continue to grow in relationship with God," he says. "I would encourage everyone to find a particular prayer form which would be comfortable to each and make it a daily discipline. Prayer takes us from an acquaintanceship with God to an intimate space where we can just be with God in total peace."

Deacon Ray Wiehagen

Deacon Ray Wiehagen says he is continually humbled and inspired by the faith of the people he serves, particularly those at Holy Redeemer Parish in Warren.

"Their generosity, acceptance and warmth are a real source of joy and strength for me," Deacon Wiehagen says. "The courage they've shown in the face of suffering gives me courage in my own struggles. I am grateful to be a part of this parish and for the opportunity to serve the people of God."

He was ordained to the permanent diaconate April 26, 2002 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

"The call to service in the church is something I've experienced much of my life," he says.

The call to something deeper became clearer after his daughter's wedding in 1997. The organist was Deacon Joe Lucia, who introduced him to the diaconate. Another powerful influence in his vocation has been Msgr. John Lucas, who recently retired as pastor of Holy Redeemer.

"He has taught me a lot about what it means to serve the needs of God's people," Deacon Wiehagen says. "What's more, his example has shown me what it means to serve God's people."

Most importantly, he says, has been the support of his wife, Elaine.

"Without her presence, her encouragement and her love, I would not be doing what I am doing," he says.

Prayer has become an essential part of Deacon Wiehagen's daily life.

"I find that I relate more and more to the Liturgy of the Hours, and the readings they contain have nourished and guided my thinking," he says.

Deacon Wiehagen says among the most vital issues facing Catholics in the United States today is the need to remain faithful to Christ and the teachings of his church, particularly respecting all life.

"We can be faithful without surrendering our hearts and minds to the political pressure and lies of the extreme right or left that would seek to devalue human life at any stage," he says. "We as American Catholics need to reject the

notion that respect for life is in any way a political value. It's not; it's a moral value."

As American Catholics, Deacon Wiehagen says we must find a way to continue to honor and respect life before birth while faithfully following Christ's teachings spelled out in Matthew 25:35-36, 40—"... I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink..."

"Now more than ever, we need to lead the way in showing that respect for life also includes respecting each other no matter how strongly we may disagree," he says.



10 YEARS

Deacon assistant:

- Holy Redeemer, Warren

My Inspiration: "For me, the most comforting Scripture passage is from Ezekiel 36:24-28. It speaks of God's enduring love for his people; a love that overpowers our weakness and sinfulness. No matter what we've done or what's been done to us, Jesus Christ (who fulfill this prophecy) has the power to cleanse, to heal and restore all that has been damaged by sin."

Deacon William Wright

The past 10 years of ordained ministry have been a joy to Deacon William Wright and his wife, Mary.

"It's been kind of an upward, graced journey," Deacon Wright says. "There are ups and downs, but that's normal. It's been a good journey so far."

He was introduced to the permanent diaconate years ago while living in New Jersey. He was teaching a confirmation class, and the father of one of his students happened to be a deacon. The idea intrigued him and he made it a point to meet him.

Shortly after discussing the idea with his wife, they moved to Clearfield. When he inquired about the diaconate in the Diocese of Erie, he discovered that no formation program existed.

His career has been divided between education and construction. When he arrived in Clearfield, he became involved with Catholic schools. He taught at St. Francis School in Clearfield for three years. Later, he served St. Catherine of Siena School in DuBois as a teacher for seven years and a principal for two years. He also served as director of religious education at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Clearfield and St. Michael the Archangel Parish in DuBois.

"I always thought of my time in Catholic education as full-time ministry and not as simply a job," Deacon Wright says.

After the deacon formation program began in 1992, he recalls several priests asking if he had ever considered becoming one. He responded that he had seriously considered it more than 20 years earlier. Part of what prompted him to seek ordained ministry, he says, is a belief in the grace of the sacraments. In the past 10 years, that belief has been strengthened.

Deacon Wright was ordained a permanent deacon April 26, 2002 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

He was introduced to the community at Christ the King Manor in DuBois by Msgr. John Mignot seven years ago.

"I've been there ever since," he says.

He is present to the people there 20 to 25 hours each week, assisting at

Mass, leading the rosary, visiting people and bringing them the Eucharist.

"People are so appreciative of your presence, whether it's the residents or their families," he says. "I just love it."

Among the people who have inspired him is his wife, Mary. They were a part of St. Catherine of Siena's Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) team and also spent a summer working with migrant farm workers in Colorado.

Deacon Wright says his hope for the future of the church is to make it more attractive for people.

"I want people who have fallen away to come back to the church, but we also have to engage the people who go to Mass every week," he says. "We have to deliver the message of Christ as he intended. God's in charge. We just have to do his will."



10 YEARS

Deacon assistant:

- St. Catherine of Siena, DuBois

Director of pastoral care:

- Christ the King Manor, DuBois

My Inspiration: "I find preparing for a homily very inspirational, and I usually preach once a week. I'm nourished by praying the office and the rosary."

Congratulations

**Bishop Donald Trautman,
Msgr. Salvatore Mitchell,
Father Mark Mastrian (home parish),
Deacon Ray Wiehagen (home parish),
Rev. Brandon
Kleckner and all
jubilarians.**

**Msgr. Lucas and
parishioners of Holy
Redeemer, Warren**



**LET ALL PEOPLE PRAISE HIM
ST. MARK IN EMPORIUM
PRAISES REV. MSGR. CHARLES
KAZA FOR HIS 40 YEARS OF
COMMITTED SERVICE TO
THE CHURCH.**

**WE THANK YOU FOR ALL
YOU HAVE DONE
AND ALL YOU
CONTINUE
TO DO!**



Congratulations Jubilarians!

and thank you for your part
and dedication in our
Mission of "Loving to Care."

Bishop Donald Trautman

Sister Kathryn Connolly, S.S.J.

Sister Ricarda Vincent, S.S.J.


Saint Mary's Home of Erie
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Father Justin P. Pino
and the Parish Family of
Saint Joseph and Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary in Oil City
congratulate

Msgr. Salvatore Mitchell
(former Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph)

Fr. Mark Mastrian
(former Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph
and former Administrator of Assumption)

Sr. Mary Louis Eichenlaub, O.S.B.

Sr. Dona Obenrader, O.S.B.

Sr. Cecilia Sullivan, O.S.B.

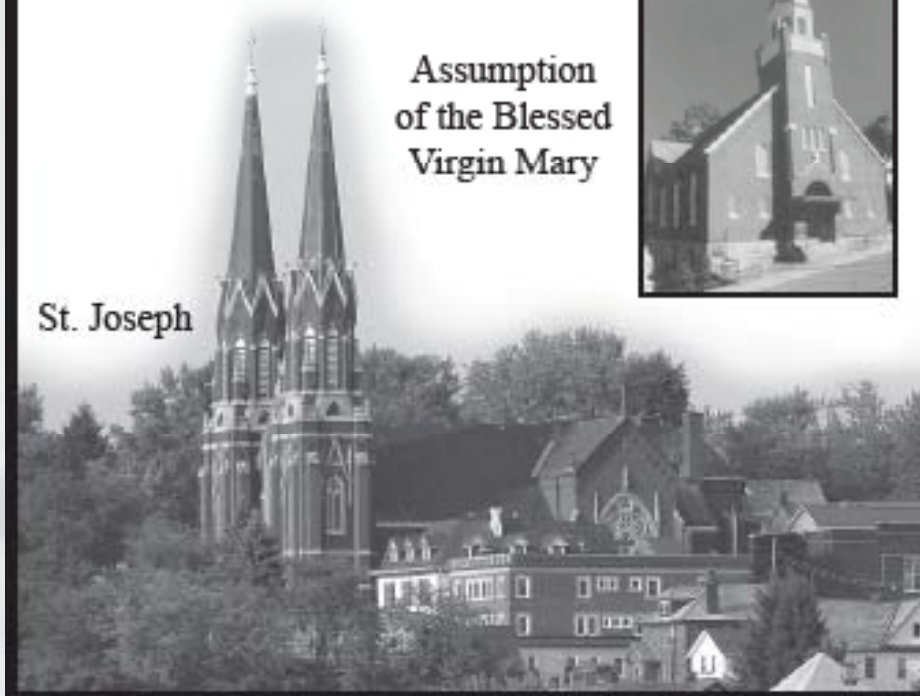
Sr. Theresa Zoky, O.S.B.

(former teachers at
Saint Joseph Schools)

Thank you for your service
to God and your inspiration to the many
people you have served. **Ad multos annos!**

St. Joseph

Assumption
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary



CONGRATULATIONS

to our pastor, MSGR. ROBERT MALENE, on your 40th jubilee! You have served your God and country with great devotion and faithfulness. We extend our love and appreciation to you on this joyous occasion and may God continue to bless you now and always. Ad multos annos!
- Your Good Shepherd Parishioners

GOOD SHEPHERD
WEST MIDDLESEX



WITH GREAT APPRECIATION AND THANKSGIVING we congratulate our retired pastor, MSGR. SALVATORE MITCHELL on the 70th anniversary of his ordination. We honor him as our founding pastor for the faithful and dedicated service he gave us for 36 years and continues to give us in the Lord's name.
Peace and goodness to you.
- The Parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish

Congratulations and many blessings to our jubilarians!

Msgr. Bruce Allison
Sr. Bernadette Bell, RSM
Sr. Mary Paul Carioty, RSM
Sr. Mary Felice Duska, RSM
Sr. Teresa Okonski, RSM
Sr. Donna Marie Orton, RSM
Sr. Natalie Rossi, RSM
Sr. Patricia Whalen, RSM
Bishop Donald Trautman

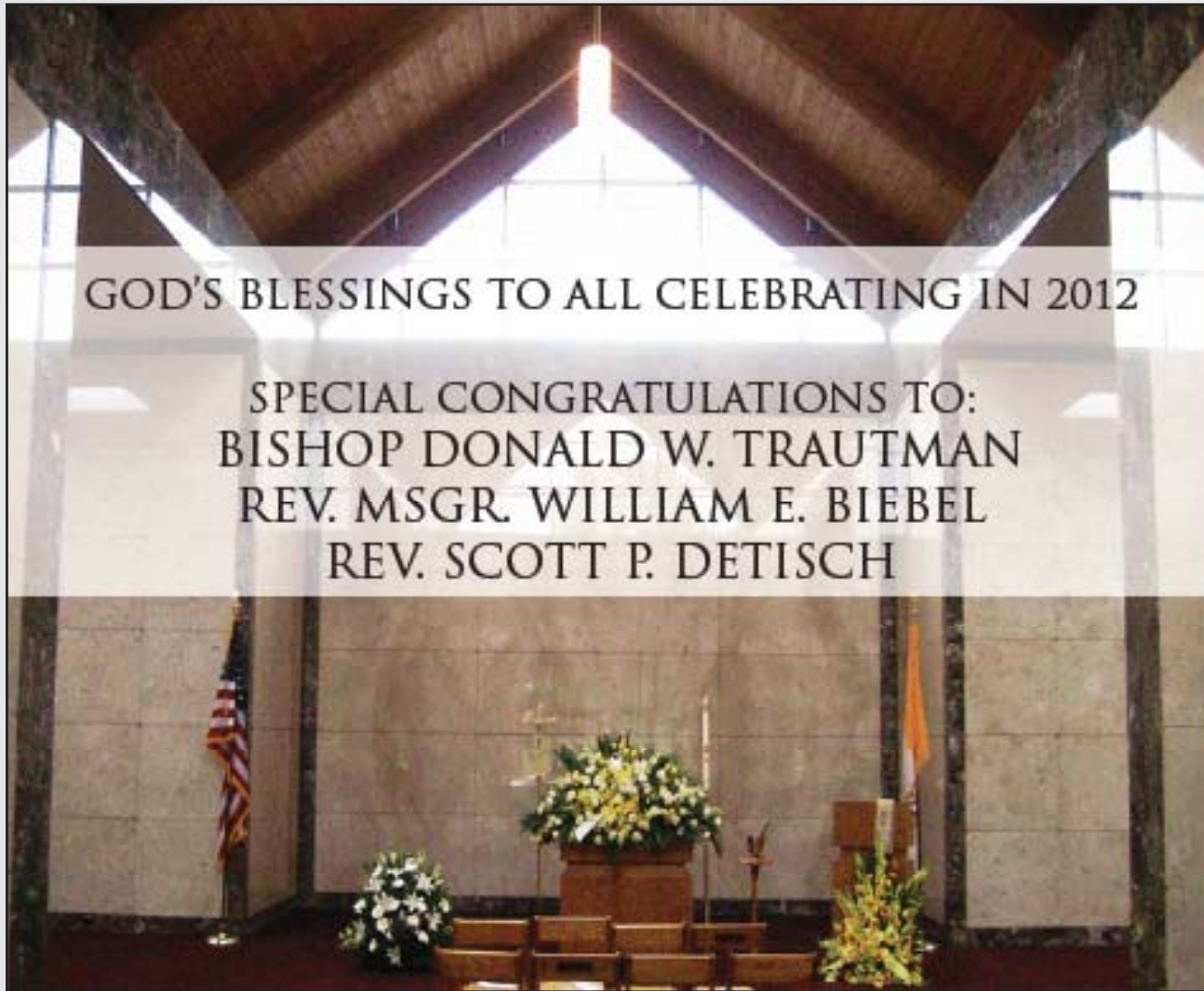
Mercyhurst Preparatory School
Mercy Terrace Apartments
Mercy Center of the Arts
Mercy Hilltop Center
Mercy Center for Women



Congratulations

TO
MOST REVEREND
DONALD W. TRAUTMAN
&
REV. WILLIAM M. KUBA

BELOVED DISCIPLE, GROVE CITY



GOD'S BLESSINGS TO ALL CELEBRATING IN 2012

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO:
BISHOP DONALD W. TRAUTMAN
REV. MSGR. WILLIAM E. BIEBEL
REV. SCOTT P. DETISCH

SINCERELY,
THE ERIE DIOCESAN
CEMETERIES STAFF



Cathedral Prep and Villa Maria Academy: Together Building the City of God Congratulations Jubilarians!

Sr. Mary Arnold Tann, SSJ '49

Sr. Marilyn Terwilliger, SSJ

Msgr. Robert Barcio '40

Msgr. James Peterson '41

Msgr. Bruce Allison '54

Msgr. William Biebel '54

Rev. Thomas Whitman '78

Rev. Scott Detisch '79



FOR EVERY BABY BORN,
EVERY HEART HEALED,
EVERY CAPABILITY RESTORED,
EVERY AILMENT CURED,
EVERY PASSING MADE LESS PAINFUL,
EVERY SPIRIT UPLIFTED,
EVERY LIFE SAVED,
WE RECOGNIZE, WITH RESPECT AND REVERENCE
THOSE WHO MADE IT ALL POSSIBLE...
OUR FOUNDERS,
SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH.

CONGRATULATIONS
SR. MARY ARNOLD TANN
SR. RICARDA VINCENT
SR. ANN PATRICE MURNOCK
SR. KATHRYN CONNOLLY

SAINT
VINCENT



We know how to treat people.™