

Special edition of *FaithLife* News Bulletin
August 4, 2013



Faithful

S E R V A N T S

Honoring Anniversaries of Clergy and Religious in the Diocese of Erie

*Trust in the Lord
with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.
Proverbs 3:5-6*



CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL
CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS
CELEBRATING
JUBILEES
THIS YEAR!

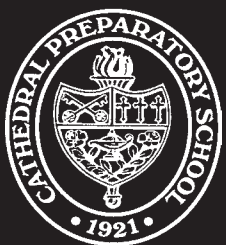
*SINCERELY,
THE
ERIE DIOCESAN
CEMETERIES STAFF*



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

Sr. Millicent Zimmer, SSJ '52
Sr. Rebecca Costa, SSJ '53
Sr. Rita McNulty, SSJ '53
Sr. Marilyn Zimmerman, SSJ '53
Sr. Therese Glass, OSB '59
Sr. Mary Drexler, SSJ '63

Rev. Robert Levis '40
Deacon Glenn Kuzma '54
Rev. Donald Berdis '55
Rev. John Fischer '55
Rev. Howard King '55
Very Rev. John Detisch, V.F. '80





T H A N K Y O U
to all jubilarians for your many years of service.

QUINN LAW FIRM
Tradition of Trust



Rev. Charles Skinner (60 Years)

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!

Thank you for making a difference!

ORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN EMBRACE EXTRAORDINARY CALL

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I offer my heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to all our jubilarians who have responded to God's call to faithfully serve his church.

As Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to his disciples, so does he share his love and unity with you, his servants doing the work of God throughout the Diocese of Erie and beyond. You are models of our oneness with God the Father and God the Son. Through your consecrated life in the church, you make the love of God and neighbor visible in the world in a very concrete way.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI on numerous occasions has spoken eloquently about the gift of consecrated life. He said it is "a radical imitation of Jesus." As such, we celebrate countless numbers of ordinary women and men who have embraced an extraordinary calling: to imitate Jesus in their lives of service.

We celebrate each of you, my sisters and brothers in consecrated life, who have handed yourselves over to God with deep trust, allowing the Spirit to fill your lives with the power, presence and holiness of Jesus.

You have embraced the mission of Jesus, trusting that the Spirit resides in you for the betterment of others. You've built the church, not of bricks and mortar, but with and through the people of God. Your holiness has touched many lives and changed many hearts. The following pages show the extent to which you have accomplished your outreach...in our schools, our parishes, our hospitals, our homes.


Blessed Pope John Paul II in his encyclical on consecrated life asked, "What is the point of the consecrated life? Why embrace this kind of life? Is the consecrated life not a kind of 'waste' of human energies which might be used more efficiently for a greater good, for the benefit of humanity and the church?"

He offered this answer to the question: "Without this concrete sign there would be a danger that the charity that animates the entire church would grow cold and that the salvific paradox of the Gospel would be blunted. ... There is a need more than ever for people to show us the fatherly face of God and the motherly face of the church, people who spend their lives so that others can have life and hope."

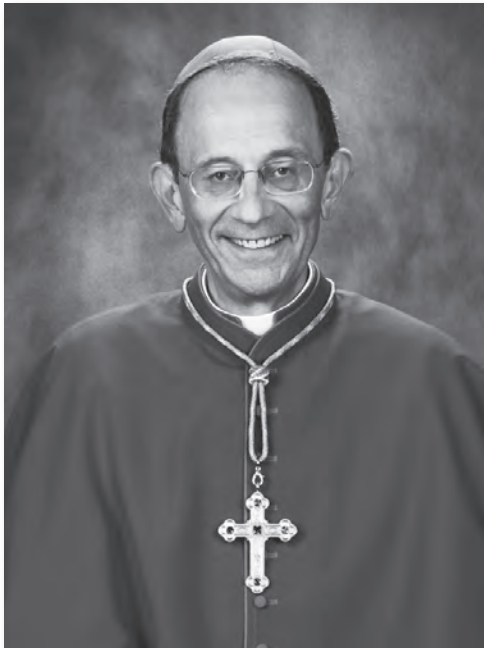
My dear sisters and brothers in consecrated life, I thank you for challenging us to put our trust in the same God who has filled your lives with hope. We thank you for inviting us to lift our eyes beyond the overwhelming events of everyday life to the simple, life-giving way of Jesus. We thank you for reminding us of the treasure that is ours when we live not so much for ourselves, but for Christ.

May you be blessed in your service of the Lord Jesus. May you be given the courage to face the challenges of our time. And may you be filled with grace to bring to all of God's people the goodness and loving kindness of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Sincerely in Christ,



The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico
Bishop of Erie



**Send congratulatory messages/cards
to the clergy, sisters and deacons to:**
Office of Communications
St. Mark Catholic Center
429 East Grandview Blvd.
Erie, PA 16504

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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ON WHOSE HARD WORK WE RELIED TO
REPORT ON SOME OF OUR JUBILARIANS.

FaithLife

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serving Catholics of the Diocese of Erie
since 1874.

SR. MARCIA McDONALD, RSM 75 YEARS

Education, administration and research are the hallmarks of Mercy Sister Marcia McDonald's religious life, which has spanned 75 years.

Now active in prayer ministry, Sister Marcia has contributed much to the Diocese of Erie and its educational outreach. Her teaching years were spent at Ss. Cosmas & Damian in Punxsutawney, where she also was principal; at Mercyhurst University, Erie; Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie; and these former high schools: St. Michael in Greenville, St. Joseph Academy in Titusville, and St. Justin's in Pittsburgh.



My Inspiration "I have enjoyed being a Sister of Mercy because I liked the philosophy of Mother McAuley [founder] and the fact that her community was not cloistered but out working in education and with the poor."

PRAYER MINISTRY (CURRENT)

- Sisters of Mercy, Erie

TEACHER

- Ss. Cosmas & Damian, Punxsutawney
- Mercyhurst University, Erie
- Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie
- St. Michael High School, Greenville
- St. Joseph Academy, Titusville
- St. Justin High School, Pittsburgh

PRINCIPAL

- Ss. Cosmas & Damian, Punxsutawney

REGISTRAR

- Mercyhurst University, Erie

DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS/ASSISTANT TO THE DEAN

- Mercyhurst University, Erie

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

- Mercyhurst Preparatory School

Sister Marcia grew up at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois, and attended the parish grade school and former high school. She entered the Sisters of Mercy on June 27, 1938, professing final vows on Aug. 16, 1944. She earned a bachelor's degree in commercial education from Mercyhurst University, and a master's degree in education from the University of Pittsburgh. She went on to become registrar, director of admissions, and assistant to the dean at Mercyhurst University.

Also, she served as development director at Mercyhurst Prep.

Sister Marcia worked for the National Catholic Research Organization, today known as the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, compiling reports for the executive director. She cited her work in studies involving the integration of white and African-American Catholic parishes in the Washington Archdiocese and in a Mississippi diocese following a hurricane.

Later, she assisted two private consultants involved in developing programs for Third World countries.

SR. MICHELE LEEHAN, RSM 70 YEARS

For 70 years, Mercy Sister Michele Leehan has lived a life of optimism for the Catholic Church and her religious community.

Several years ago, she was asked about the age of the laity and the declining numbers of vocations to religious life, but she responded with hope, saying the Sisters of Mercy came from Ireland to the United States to teach immigrants and their families and to care for the sick and dying. That mission, she said, would carry on.

This year, Sister Michele marks her 70th jubilee as a Sister of Mercy.

From St. Michael Parish in Greenville, she graduated from the former St. Michael High School. She worked as a secretary at Camp Reynolds near Greenville, an embarkation point for troops during World War II, while taking evening courses at Thiel College.

On March 24, 1943, she entered the Sisters of Mercy in Titusville, and professed final vows on Sept. 25, 1948.

Sister Michele earned a bachelor's degree from Mercyhurst University, Erie, majoring in Latin and minoring in English and business education. At John Carroll University, Cleveland, she earned a master's degree in classics. Also, she attended the following universities: Fordham, Dayton and St. Louis.

She taught at several high schools in the Diocese of Erie, and served as principal at Mercyhurst Preparatory School and St. Joseph Academy.

At Mercyhurst University, she was assistant director of financial aid.

For the Sisters of Mercy, she was secretary general on the Sisters of Mercy Council for five years, chairperson of the constitutions committee for the former regional community of Erie, and director of development and communications.

Today, Sister Michele is in prayer ministry.



My Inspiration "We believe we have laid the groundwork carefully, and we hope the laity will continue God's work."

PRAYER MINISTRY (CURRENT)

- Sisters of Mercy, Erie

TEACHER

- Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie
- St. Joseph Academy, Titusville
- St. Justin, Pittsburgh
- St. Patrick, Franklin
- Ss. Cosmas & Damian, Punxsutawney
- Central Catholic High School, DuBois

PRINCIPAL

- Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie
- St. Joseph Academy, Titusville

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL AID

- Mercyhurst University, Erie

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

- Sisters of Mercy, Erie

SECRETARY GENERAL

- Sisters of Mercy Council

SR. MARY JUDITH UZZO, RSM 70 YEARS



*M*ercy Sister

Mary Judith Uzzo is one of many religious vocations that have come from St. Adrian Parish in Delancey.

“The parish priests and Sisters of Mercy at St. Adrian School were always willing and ready to assist,” Sister Judith recalls. “It was through this kind of love and support of family and friends that I was able to hear and then respond to God’s call to become a Sister of Mercy.”

Sister Judith remains committed to her calling as she celebrates her 70th anniversary.

“How grateful I am to God to be born of loving, faith-filled parents in a family of caring and supportive family members, to teach in the Diocese of Erie and to be a Sister of Mercy,” she says.

Most of Sister Judith’s religious life was devoted to teaching and serving as a principal at Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Erie. She retired from teaching in 2006. She was principal at schools in Titusville and Brookville, and also taught in Punxsutawney, Franklin and DuBois. At Msgr. Geno J. Monti School in Farrell, she taught from 1963-66, returning to teach fifth-graders in 1996.

Sister Judith entered the Sisters of Mercy, Titusville, on July 1, 1943, and made her final profession on Aug. 17, 1949. She earned a bachelor’s degree in education from Mercyhurst University; a master’s in education from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania; and an elementary school administration certification from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh.

Besides teaching, she was choir director and supervisor of the cadet student teachers from the Teaching Cadet Program at Mercyhurst.

Of her teaching experience, she says, “At the end of novitiate training, I began teaching, a ministry which proved to be challenging, exciting, rewarding and enjoyable.”

Today, Sister Judith is in prayer ministry.

My Inspiration “I loved working with children; they kept me young.”

PRAYER MINISTRY (CURRENT)

- Sisters of Mercy

TEACHER

- St. Walburga, Titusville
- St. Luke, Erie
- St. Patrick, Franklin
- Ss. Cosmas & Damian, Punxsutawney
- Our Lady of Fatima, Farrell
- St. Catherine, DuBois

PRINCIPAL

- Immaculate Conception, Brookville
- St. Walburga, Titusville

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR

- Immaculate Conception, Brookville

SR. PHYLLIS WEAVER, OSB 70 YEARS



*S*ister Phyllis Weaver celebrates 70 years as a Benedictine and has lived the vowed life longer than any other present member of the Erie-based community.

“But I am not the oldest in age,” Sister Phyllis says with a wink. “I won’t be 90 until next November and some sisters are already in their 90s.”

Sister Phyllis met the Benedictine Sisters of Erie in her hometown of Sharon, and entered the community in 1941, never looking back. She has ministered primarily in the field of education—in elementary and high schools as a teacher and administrator. She had been education coordinator and supervisor in education advocacy services at Sarah Reed Center in Erie for 20 years before taking over the ministry of hospitality at Mount St. Benedict Monastery from 1994 to 2010.

She stays abreast of the latest discussions in theology and spirituality, and she keeps up with local and national news as well as current church and world events. She is renowned in her community for recommending books and articles. It is not unusual for her to hand sisters a news clipping, a highlighted article or a book title with the simple greeting: “Thought you would enjoy this.”

She is most thankful to her community for sharing daily prayer, meals and conversation. It is, she says, “what keeps me and my mind going.”

Currently, Sister Phyllis is engaged in the ministry of prayer and presence at the monastery.

My Inspiration “Be open to hearing others. Be willing to listen and accept the other. Be happy to work with each other. Pray for them, be present to them. It helps them and helps you, too.”

MINISTRY OF PRAYER AND PRESENCE (CURRENT)

- Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie

TEACHER

- St. Gregory Elementary, North East
- St. Gregory High School, North East
- Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie
- Venango Christian High School, Oil City

- Immaculate Conception Elementary, Clarion

- St. Mary, Erie
- Sacred Heart, Sharon

PRINCIPAL

- St. Joseph School, Sharon
- St. Gregory High School, North East
- St. Gregory Elementary, North East

ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Benedict Academy, Erie

MINISTER OF HOSPITALITY

- Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie

EDUCATION COORDINATOR/SUPERVISOR IN EDUCATION ADVOCACY

- Sarah Reed Center, Erie

Your unwavering dedication ripples through the Diocese of Erie. Congratulations!

Sr. Marcia McDonald, RSM, Sr. Michele Leehan, RSM, Sr. Mary Judith Uzzo, RSM, Sr. Catherine Anne Mesanko, RSM, Sr. Rita Panciera, RSM, and Rev. Howard J. King

With gratitude, the Catholic community of Titusville at St. Titus, St. Walburga and Immaculate Conception Mission

Congratulations, Jubilarians!

Thank you for your part
and dedication in our
mission of "Loving to Care."

Rev.
Robert Levis
65 Years

Sister Rita
McNulty,
S.S.J.
60 Years

Deacon
Anthony Alleruzzo
10 Years



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

REV. ROBERT J. LEVIS 65 YEARS

For Father Robert Levis, the greatest joy in being a priest is celebrating Mass with the people of God.

"I have been with them, week after week, and shared their sorrows and joys, disappointments and successes, a few marriages and funerals; I shared all those things by offering them up to God in their name," he says.

Father Levis has been retired for 22 years now, but his legacy at Gannon University lives on.

He joined the faculty at Gannon in 1949 and remained at the university for 42 years, acting as registrar and chairman of Gannon's admissions office, director of student personnel and chairman of the theology department. Also, he was director of liberal studies, graduate religious studies, and was a theology professor and the director of the Gannon University Pontifical Center for Catechetical Studies.

As a youngster, Father Levis attended Mass at St. Patrick Parish on the east side of Erie and attended grade school there. He graduated from Cathedral Preparatory School in Erie in 1940.

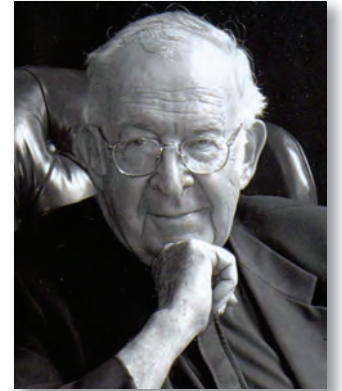
He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Erie on May 5, 1948.

An acclaimed author, Father Levis co-edited *John Paul II, Catechist* and he wrote pieces on marriage for *The Catholic Encyclopedia*. He wrote articles for the *Lake Shore Visitor* and *The National Catholic Register*, as well as chairing the book, *The Story of Gannon University*.

His work was used for many years on EWTN's Expert Forums database. He was adept at both writing and the sciences, having designed his own computer programs. From 1995-96, he taught teenagers and elementary students about their faith.

The most significant event of his priesthood was his time at Gannon. "I've been privileged to have spent all those years with young men and women," he says. "I hope at least some of them saw in my poor self and the other priests at the university the love and attention with which the church surrounds them."

Father Levis currently is retired, living at Saint Mary's Home of Erie.



My Inspiration "A priest is one who infallibly presents the people to their God and then shares God sacramentally with the people."

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- Sacred Heart, Sharon

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- Our Mother of Sorrows, Erie

FACULTY

- Gannon University, Erie

REGISTRAR AND CHAIRMAN OF ADMISSIONS OFFICE

- Gannon University, Erie

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT PERSONNEL

- Gannon University, Erie

DIRECTOR

- Gannon University Pontifical Center for Catechetical Studies

LATIN MASS

- St. Bernadette

ORDINARY CONFESSOR

- Sisters of the Divine Spirit

REV. WILLIAM J. MALONEY 65 YEARS

As an altar server in third grade, Father William Maloney started to feel his call to the priesthood. Years later, through the encouragement and support of his parents, grandparents, brother and sisters, he entered St. Mary Seminary and University in Baltimore.

In the 65 years since his ordination, he has been pastor at four parishes and a parochial vicar at three. He currently is retired and lives outside the Diocese of Erie.

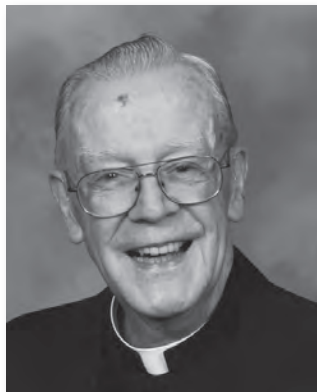
Father Maloney is inspired by the late Msgr. James Peterson's "dedication and service to the poor, hungry, imprisoned, homeless and addicted." Msgr. Peterson, he adds, had a deep faith.

A native of Holy Rosary Parish in Pittsburgh, Father Maloney attended the parish school. He graduated from Central Catholic High School in Pittsburgh and furthered his education at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, and at St. Charles College, Catonsville, Md.

He encourages others to devote time and energy to their spiritual lives. He offers this quote from St. Padre Pio: "Do not worry. Worry is useless. Pray, pray, pray."

He adds, "Spend some time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every day."

For Father Maloney, the power of prayer is an absolute necessity in life. He retired on July 1, 1991.



My Inspiration
"Once the disciples could not expel a demon. Jesus said, 'This kind can be expelled only by prayer.' Jesus once said, 'Do not be afraid, I am with you always.' Why? Without prayer we can do nothing."

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Peter Cathedral, Erie
- Holy Redeemer, Warren
- St. Joseph, Oil City

CHAPLAIN

- Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie

PASTOR

- St. Peter, Conneautville
- St. Eusebius, East Brady
- St. Adalbert, Farrell
- St. Michael, Emlenton

Thank you for your service!
You've changed the lives of many.

Sr. Mary Judith Uzzo, RSM • Sr. Catherine Anne Mesanko, RSM
Sr. Marilyn Zimmerman, SSJ • Rev. Paul A. Schill
Deacon Glenn Kuzma



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Erie, Pennsylvania 16504

web: lukealive.org
phone: 814.825.6920



425 East 38th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16504

web: slserie.org
phone: 814.825.7105

"I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding" -Jeremiah 3:15

St. Adalbert, Farrell, and St. Anthony, Sharon, would like to recognize and warmly congratulate the following jubilarians for their exceptional service to the church:

St. Adalbert Parish

Established 1913



St. ADALBERT CHURCH
1035 Fruit Avenue
Farrell, Pennsylvania 16121

Rev. William J. Maloney (pastor of St. Adalbert)

Rev. William A. Rice (pastor of St. Adalbert)

Rev. Charles Skinner

(senior assistant at St. Anthony and St. Adalbert)

Rev. Donald E. Berdis

(neighboring pastor and friend of the parishes)

St. Anthony Parish

Established 1924



*Rev. Charles Skinner,
Thank you for your service.*

*You are a bright light
in our diocese.*

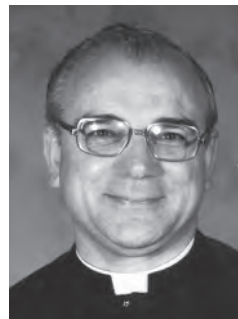
*May God bless you
now and always.*

~ St. Mark, Emporium, and St. James Mission, Driftwood

Congratulations

to the following jubilarians
from Our Mother of Sorrows Parish in Erie

Rev. Donald Berdis - Holy Family native son
Sr. M. Kevin Berdis, OSF - Holy Family native daughter
Fr. Robert Levis - St. Ann weekend assistant
Deacon Glenn Kuzma - Holy Family native son



Rev. Berdis
50 years



Sr. Berdis
50 years



CONGRATULATIONS!

Sacred Heart (Erie) would like to honor:

Sr. Rebecca Ann Costa, SSJ - 60 years
Sr. Mary Irene Lunger, SSJ - 60 years
Sr. Claire Hudert, OSB - 50 years
Very Rev. John Detisch, V.F. - 25 years
Very Rev. Michael Kesicki - 25 years
Deacon Robert Walker - 10 years

CONGRATULATIONS, JUBILARIANS!

Villa Maria
Elementary School,
a co-educational
elementary school
established by the Sisters of
St. Joseph in 1892, would like to
congratulate current faculty
member, Sr. Mary Irene
Lunger, SSJ, and all of the
SSJs and jubilarians
on their anniversaries!



Congratulations and Thank You!



Sr. Phyllis Weaver, OSB
Sr. Emilie Rose LeBoeuf, SSJ
Rev. Msgr. Joseph K. Bobal
Rev. Msgr. John W. Swoger

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR *lifelong achievement*

CONGRATULATIONS, JUBILARIANS!

We are grateful you have served our parishes and our school!

SR. REBECCA ANN COSTA, SSJ
(served at both parishes!)

SR. EMILIE ROSE LeBOEUF, SSJ

SR. MARILYN ZIMMERMAN, SSJ

SR. RITA McNULTY, SSJ

MSGR. DAVID RUBINO

REV. BILL LASKA



*Holy Rosary
Erie*



*St. John
the Baptist
Erie*

SR. DOROTHY WILWOHL, SSJ
SR. MILLICENT ZIMMER, SSJ
SR. MARY DREXLER, SSJ
REV. JOHN FISCHER - native son!

SR. REBECCA ANN COSTA, SSJ 60 YEARS

Sister Rebecca Ann Costa has shared peace and concern for others throughout her 60 years as a Sister of St. Joseph.

From her earliest years, she absorbed the strong faith of her grandparents and her parents, the late Marian and Joseph M. Costa. The parish priests at St. Andrew Parish, and the Sisters of St. Joseph at St. Andrew School and Villa Maria Academy, all in Erie, had the most influence on her life and drew her close to the church.

Sister Virginella Chisholm, SSJ, had been one of Sister Rebecca's greatest mentors, having inspired her from the time Sister Rebecca was in eighth grade. Says Sister Rebecca: "Sister Virginella was a person who truly cared for her students and their welfare... a woman of prayer."

A native of St. Andrew Parish, Sister Rebecca was educated at Blessed Sacrament and St. Andrew elementary schools, Erie; Villa Maria Academy, Villa Maria College and Gannon University, all in Erie; Michigan State University, Lansing; and Catholic University, Washington, D.C.

She entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph on Aug. 30, 1953, only a few months after high school graduation. She has never regretted that decision.

"My family and religious community continue to be great supports to me. The hundreds of people I have met through my different ministries have inspired me. I thank God daily for them and for the gift of vocation. I have been truly blessed," Sister Rebecca says.

She professed temporary vows on Aug. 15, 1956, and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1959.

During her years of ministry, Sister Rebecca taught at St. John the Baptist, Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart, Our Lady of Peace, St. Andrew and St. Peter schools, all in Erie; and St. Leo Elementary School in Ridgway. She also ministered at Saint Vincent Hospital and St. Joseph Home, and was auditor with the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal for 25 years.

Since retirement from the Marriage Tribunal, Sister Rebecca has been caretaker for her sister, Jeanne, and is presently serving as retreat coordinator for her religious community.

Sister Rebecca says her greatest joys in life have been God, her parents and family, her vocation as a Sister of St. Joseph, her congregation and all those with whom she has ministered throughout the years.



My Inspiration "Through the years of religious life, I have grown in my love for everything 'eucharistic.' Christ truly present! What an awesome gift of God's love."

RETREAT COORDINATOR (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph, Erie

AUDITOR

- Marriage Tribunal, Erie

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

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

TEACHER

- Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- St. John the Baptist, Erie
- Holy Rosary, Erie
- Sacred Heart, Erie
- St. Andrew, Erie
- St. Peter, Erie
- St. Leo, Ridgway

COMPTROLLER

- Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie

SR. EMILIE ROSE LEBOEUF, SSJ 60 YEARS

In her 60 years as a Sister of St. Joseph, Sister Emilie Rose LeBoeuf, formerly Sister Dorothea LeBoeuf, always has been inspired by the humility of Christ. That humility has held her in good stead through most of her career as a teacher in the Diocese of Erie.

For nearly 50 of her 60 years as a sister, she worked as a teacher. For 43 of those years, she taught in the following schools in the Diocese of Erie: St. Andrew, Holy Rosary, St. Patrick, Our Lady's Christian, St. Ann and Villa Maria Elementary, all in Erie; St. Agatha, Meadville; St. Mary, Reynoldsville; Kennedy Catholic High School, Hermitage; St. Leo Elementary, Ridgway; Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys; Bradford Christian High School, Bradford; and Venango Catholic High School, Oil City. She was principal at St. Ann.

Sister Emilie Rose currently ministers with the SSJ/Marycrest Prayer Card Ministry, praying for patients at Saint Vincent Hospital. From 2006-11, she was a receptionist/volunteer with the Oil City Housing Authority, and from 2005-06, she ministered with the Adult Education/Resource Center with Career Link of Oil City.

Her call to the religious life came at her first Communion.

"From the beginning, this call was nourished by the dedication and spirituality of my teachers at St. Bernard's, particularly Sisters Consuela, Rose Agnes, Mary Pascal, Marcella and Virginia Ann," Sister Emilie Rose says.

A native of St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Bradford, she earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College, Erie, and earned a master's in theater arts from Villanova University, Villanova, Pa. She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on Aug. 30, 1953, and professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1959.

My Inspiration "Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross." —*Philippians 2:6-8*



MINISTRY

- SSJ/Marycrest Prayer Card Ministry (current)
- Adult Education/Resource Center, Career Link, Oil City

TEACHER

- Venango Catholic High School, Oil City
- Villa Maria Elementary, Erie
- Bradford Christian High School, Bradford
- Elk County Catholic, St. Marys
- Kennedy Catholic, Hermitage
- Our Lady's Christian, Erie
- St. Patrick, Erie
- Holy Rosary, Erie
- St. Agatha, Meadville
- St. Mary, Reynoldsville
- St. Andrew, Erie
- St. Leo, Ridgway
- St. Ann, Erie

PRINCIPAL

- St. Ann, Erie

RECEPTIONIST/VOLUNTEER

- Oil City Housing Authority

SR. MARY IRENE LUNGER, SSJ 60 YEARS

Music is at the heart and soul of Sister Mary Irene Lunger's life as a Sister of St. Joseph.

Since 1994, Sister Mary Irene has taught piano lessons at Villa Maria Elementary to students and children from the surrounding area. She also served as choir director at the school, working with children during liturgies. In 1992, she began ministry as assistant director of liturgies for the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Her association with music began early on. From 1956-83, she taught elementary school music and piano lessons at St. Andrew and Villa Maria Elementary schools in Erie. During that time, she also worked with the children's choir at St. Paul Parish and at St. Joseph's Home for Children, both in Erie.

Her love of children extended to another ministry, too. For 20 years, she and the late Sister Joseph John McDonald were foster mothers to babies waiting to be adopted through Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Services.

According to Sister Mary Irene, the Sisters of St. Joseph who taught her during her elementary and secondary school years always showed a love and concern for others. She admired their charisma and wanted to imitate them.

"My desire to serve others also came from the example of my parents who were always willing to help others in any way possible," she says, affectionately.

Prior to teaching at Villa Maria Elementary, she taught piano and organ lessons at Villa Maria Conservatory from 1983-93. From 1953-1969, she taught in the primary grades at Sacred Heart, Blessed Sacrament and Villa Maria, all in Erie; St. Bernard, Bradford; and St. Leo, Ridgway. As if she weren't busy enough, she taught piano on a part-time basis.

In 1965, Sister Mary Irene earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College. She also studied at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and Gannon University, earning additional credits in music and music education. She did advanced independent work in music at the University of Wisconsin in 1970.

A native of St. Leo Magnus Parish, Ridgway, she attended St. Leo Elementary School and graduated in 1953 from St. Leo High School. Immediately after graduation, she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on Aug. 30, 1953. She professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1959.



My Inspiration "I find the liturgies of the Sacred Triduum most inspiring because they speak to me of the great love that God has for me and his people."

PIANO TEACHER (CURRENT)

- Villa Maria Elementary, Erie

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LITURGIES (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph

TEACHER

- Villa Maria Elementary, Erie
- St. Andrew, Erie
- Sacred Heart, Erie
- Blessed Sacrament, Erie
- St. Bernard, Bradford
- St. Leo, Ridgway

FOSTER MOTHER

- Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Services, Erie

SR. RITA McNULTY, SSJ 60 YEARS

Nursing and the care of others has been Sister Rita McNulty's vocation the past 60 years.

Today, Sister Rita is an adjunct faculty member at Villa Maria School of Nursing, Gannon University, a position she has held since January 2012. She has been published in numerous nursing journals and currently serves as a member of the Northwest Regional Action Coalition.

Before going to Gannon, a year ago, she taught and practiced nursing as a nurse practitioner in the Cleveland, Ohio, area. She held a full-time faculty position at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University for 17 years. She worked as a nurse practitioner at Buckeye Health Center, and held a part-time nurse practitioner position at the University Hospitals of Cleveland.

Her nursing skills were put to even greater use when she was sent to Africa for 10 weeks in 1997 to teach nurse practitioner skills to the nursing faculty at the University of Zimbabwe in Harare. While at Case Western Reserve University, she earned a doctor of nursing practice degree (DNP) in 2005.

Prior to her position at Case Western, Sister Rita created a nurse practitioner role at Saint Mary's Home, Erie, where she served the needs of the elderly and their families for 14 years, from 1980-94.

She was given an academic leave to obtain a nurse practitioner certificate at the University of Rochester. She was the first nurse practitioner in northwestern Pennsylvania.

She held a joint appointment in the School of Nursing and the School of Medicine at the University of Michigan, from 1976-78.

Some of her early ministry assignments included teaching at Villa Maria College School of Nursing, working as a staff nurse at Spencer Hospital and serving as an instructor in its School of Nursing in Meadville. She was a teacher at Villa Maria Elementary from 1955-1956, and at Holy Rosary School from 1953-1955.

She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on Aug. 15, 1953, and professed her final vows in 1959.



My Inspiration "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; And where there is sadness, joy."

—Prayer of St. Francis

ADJUNCT FACULTY (CURRENT)

- Villa Maria School of Nursing, Gannon University, Erie

MEMBER (CURRENT)

- Northwest Regional Action Coalition
- Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nurses

NURSING FACULTY

- Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland
- University of Pittsburgh
- Niagara University, Lewiston, N.Y.

NURSE

- Saint Mary's Home, Erie
- Spencer Hospital, Meadville

INSTRUCTOR

- Spencer Hospital, Meadville

TEACHER

- Villa Maria Elementary, Erie
- Holy Rosary, Erie

SR. CATHERINE ANNE MESANKO, RSM 60 YEARS

Sister Catherine Anne Mesanko chose to live the Mercy life for a few significant reasons:

- A faith-filled home created by her parents in Delancey.
- The example of the Sisters of Mercy for whom she cooked while in high school.
- The encouragement of Father James Keating.

The Sisters of Mercy, she says, exuded prayerfulness, goodness and joy. Those qualities were the inspiration for her 60 years in religious life.

She entered the Sisters of Mercy, Titusville, on Aug. 28, 1953, and professed final vows on Aug. 2, 1959.

A native of St. Adrian Parish, Delancey,

Sister Catherine Anne graduated from the former parish high school. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Mercyhurst College, Erie, and a master's degree in education from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

Sister Catherine Anne taught in Catholic elementary schools for most of her religious life. She served as assistant coordinator for her community, and was a sacristan, receptionist and telemarketer. In 1973, the Erie Council PTA presented her with the Rev. Dr. Hickey Scholarship Award. The Teen-Age Action Club honored her for 20 years of dedicated service to youth.

Currently, she lives at the Sisters of Mercy Center, Erie.

My Inspiration "I am so grateful for my parents, my family, my sisters in community and for the many friends who have come into my life as faithful supporters of my vocation and personal happiness."



PRAYER MINISTRY (CURRENT)

- Sisters of Mercy

TEACHER

- St. Luke, Erie
- St. Thomas, Corry
- St. Patrick, Franklin
- St. Michael, Greenville
- St. Walburga, Titusville
- St. Titus, Titusville
- Ss. Cosmas & Damian, Punxsutawney

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

- St. Luke, Erie

ASSISTANT COORDINATOR

- Sisters of Mercy Regional Community, Erie

RECEPTIONIST

- Mercy Center on Aging, Erie

SACRISTAN

- Christ the King Chapel, Mercyhurst University, Erie

TELEMARKETER

- *Lake Shore Visitor*

SR. RITA PANCIERA, RSM 60 YEARS

Mercy Sister Rita Panciera is synonymous with the House of Prayer in Erie. Director of this spiritual outpost since 1975, she has shared her insights, wisdom and direction with many people in the Erie area who have sought an oasis in a busy world.

"It has been a place of growth, peace and joy—a blending of teaching, learning and interacting with the many people who are part of the House of Prayer community," she says. "It has been the soil from which much has grown, both for me and for those with whom I associate."

Sister Rita holds degrees in business education, business administration and religious studies. She is certified in religious studies, retreat ministry, spiritual direction and centering prayer.

Also, she is certified in directing the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius.

The thoughtfulness, openness, prayerfulness and good humor of the Sisters of Mercy drew Sister Rita to the Mercy community when she was just a student at Mercyhurst University. She entered the Sisters of Mercy in Titusville on Sept. 8, 1953, and professed final vows on Aug. 2, 1959.

"The deep friendships that I experience with our sisters and the sharing of our spiritual and daily life together all have been wonderful gifts," she adds.



My Inspiration "Prayer is a plant, the seed of which is sown in the heart of every Christian." —*Catherine McAuley, founder, Sisters of Mercy*

DIRECTOR (CURRENT)

- House of Prayer, Erie

DEAN OF STUDENTS

CAMPUS MINISTRY FOUNDER/DIRECTOR

- Mercyhurst University, Erie

TEACHER

- Mercyhurst University, Erie
- St. Titus, Titusville
- St. Michael, Greenville

SPIRITUALITY TEAM

- Diocese of Erie Deacon Team, Erie

LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Sisters of Mercy, Erie

Congratulations to the following jubilarians:

Sr. Rebecca Ann Costa, SSJ (60 years)

Sr. Dorothy Wilwohl, SSJ (60 years)

Sr. Mary Drexler, SSJ (50 years)

Very Rev. John Detisch, V.F.
(25 years, native son)

Deacon Tony Alleruzzo (10 years)

Deacon John Mang (5 years)



Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie

Congratulations and many blessings to our jubilarians!



REV. CHARLES SKINNER 60 YEARS

When Father Charles Skinner packed his bags for the U.S. Army in World War II, he also took along his strong faith.

"I found faith essential," he says, "especially when sent to the Pacific to join an ordnance battalion where the chief work was practicing for the invasion of Japan. There, faith was tested. Subjective religion paled beside the objective truth that was one and apostolic."

The war briefly interrupted Father Skinner's educational pursuits. A native of New Bethlehem, he had been enrolled at Saint Vincent College Seminary, Latrobe, as a pre-law major. He abandoned his studies when he was drafted into the Army in 1942. He served in the Pacific Theater until 1945.

In 1946, he returned to education and began to discern his possible call to the priesthood. He met with then-Bishop John Mark Gannon and requested to return to Saint Vincent, where he eventually earned his bachelor's and master's degrees. He also earned a master's degree in history at the University of Pittsburgh and did doctoral work at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland.

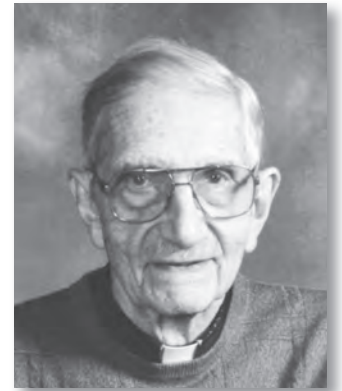
On May 14, 1953, he was ordained in Erie, serving first at St. Mark Parish, Emporium. He considers the late Msgr. Vincent Enright and the late Father Lawrence Antoun as the most significant influences in his priestly life in the Diocese of Erie.

Msgr. Enright enlisted Father Skinner to serve on the diocesan board for the Campaign for Human Development, and also encouraged him to work as national treasurer of the Catholic Committee for Appalachia.

"He [Msgr. Enright] was always getting me in trouble," Father Skinner jokes.

A longtime supporter of scouting, Father Skinner was awarded the St. George Medal from the Catholic Committee on Scouting. He was renowned for promoting ecumenism, founding the Oil City Covenant of Churches.

He is retired but helps out whenever needed at St. Anthony Parish, Sharon, and at St. Adalbert Parish, Farrell.



My Inspiration "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone."
—1 Corinthians 12:4-6

PASTOR

- St. Teresa of Avila, Union City
- St. Stephen, Oil City

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Mark, Emporium

TEACHER

- Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie

ASSISTANT HEADMASTER

- Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. George, Erie

CO-FOUNDER

- Oil City Covenant of Churches

SR. DOROTHY WILWOHL, SSJ 60 YEARS

Sister Dorothy Wilwohl, formerly Sister Edward Marie, gave most of her life to the education of children in the Diocese of Erie. The Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Erie recognized her 35-year teaching career.

"I have been blessed with a great love for children, and in my years of teaching there have been so many opportunities to share the charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph," Sister Dorothy says.

She taught at Villa Maria Elementary, Our Lady of Peace and St. John the Baptist schools, all in Erie, and at St. Brigid, Meadville. Later, she was principal at St. John.

When she was young, Sister Dorothy recalls attending daily Mass and evening devotions at Holy Rosary Parish in Erie. She continued to participate in church life well into her high school years at Academy High School in Erie.

Encouraged by the parish priests and a Sister of St. Joseph, she entered the religious community on Jan. 29, 1954. She professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1959.

"The Sisters of St. Joseph were always an inspiration to me," Sister Dorothy recalls. "Their many acts of kindness to me and my family have had a long-lasting effect on all of us."

Currently, Sister Dorothy serves as a finance assistant for her congregation. She previously served as the director of Villa Maria Conference Center. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College and a certificate in library science in 1968 from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.



FINANCE ASSISTANT (CURRENT)

- Sisters of Saint Joseph, Erie

DIRECTOR

- Villa Maria Conference Center, Erie

TEACHER

- Villa Maria Elementary, Erie
- Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- St. Brigid, Meadville
- St. John the Baptist, Erie

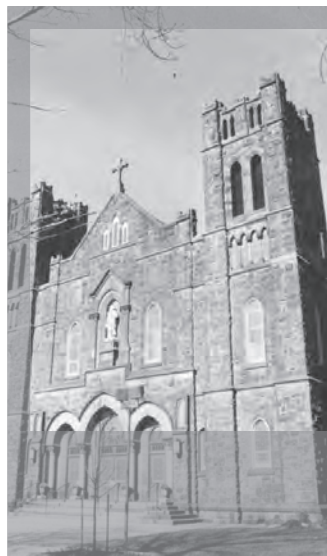
OFFICE SECRETARY

- Villa Maria Academy, Erie

PRINCIPAL

- St. John the Baptist, Erie

My Inspiration
"Jesus' words, 'Let the little children come to me,' ring true in my heart. I have been blessed with a great love for children and, in my many years of teaching, have had wonderful opportunities to share this love, which God has so generously given to me."



St. Andrew Parish
congratulates our jubilarians,
especially our native daughter,
Sr. Rebecca Ann Costa, SSJ.

Sr. Mary Irene Lunger, SSJ
Sr. Marilyn Zimmerman, SSJ
Rev. Msgr. John Swoger
Rev. Msgr. David Rubino

Congratulations!

SR. MARY MILLICENT ZIMMER, SSJ, 60 YEARS

Mary Millicent Zimmer's second-grade teacher first planted the idea of her becoming a sister. The notion came and went until Sister Mary Millicent's senior year in high school when a priest said that if God asks someone to enter religious life and they refuse, then many people would never learn about God.

Her parents knew she had a religious vocation in mind but did not push her. She decided to work a year first. After that year, she made up her mind and entered the Sisters of St. Joseph.

"Both of my parents were supportive, though I had some negative comments from other people," says Sister Mary Millicent. "It did not deter me from my resolve. I am very grateful that God chose me—not because I had a high IQ or many talents, which I don't—but because he loved me."

Since 2010, Sister Mary Millicent has served as a part-time receptionist for the Sisters of St. Joseph. She is actively involved in the SSJ/Marycrest Prayer Card Ministry, praying for patients at Saint Vincent Hospital. Previously, she served as pastoral minister at All Saints Parish in Sunrise, Fla., from 1983 to 2008.

She taught at Blessed Sacrament and Sacred Heart schools in Erie, and Holy Rosary in Johnsonburg. Her main ministry was office work at St. Joseph's Home for Children, the Diocese of Erie Mission Office, Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie, and Spencer Hospital, Meadville. She worked as a full-time religious education teacher for several years in Bradford, Mercer, Houtzdale, Meadville and Erie.

She spent her canonical year at the motherhouse with various duties and study. She lived at Transfiguration House in Butler, where her prayer was her work.

Sister Mary Millicent earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College in 1968. She went on to earn a master's in theology at St. Bonaventure University, Olean, N.Y., in 1980.

She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on Aug. 30, 1953, and professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1959.

A native of St. John the Baptist Church in Erie, she attended Villa Maria Academy and St. John's Elementary School.

Sister Mary Millicent draws much of her inspiration from the Bible and the lives of the saints.

"With all their human faults," she says, "they still triumphed over these and attained great virtue."



My Inspiration
"My favorite prayer is the liturgy, of course, because of the Word of God and the Holy Eucharist."

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph

PRAYER MINISTRY (CURRENT)

- SSJ/Marycrest Prayer Card Ministry

TEACHER

- Blessed Sacrament, Erie
- Sacred Heart, Erie
- Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg

OFFICE WORK

- Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie
- Spencer Hospital, Meadville
- St. Joseph's Home for Children

PASTORAL MINISTER

- All Saints Parish, Sunrise, Fla.

SR. MARILYN ZIMMERMAN, SSJ

60 YEARS

“None, such,” said Sister Marilyn Zimmerman’s mother when her young daughter confided that she wanted to enter the convent. Such a calling was not what her parents had in mind.

But for the young Marilyn, the call was clear. Her first encounter with the Sisters of St. Joseph was in first grade at Holy Rosary School, Erie.

“I wanted to be like them because they seemed to represent all that was holy and close to God,” Sister Marilyn now recalls.

That image faded in and out over the years, but by her senior year of high school, it was “decision time” and there seemed to be only one answer: become a Sister of St. Joseph to make a difference in the lives of others.

“My years in ministry have called me to teach in elementary schools, to counseling, pastoral ministry, spiritual direction and retreat work,” Sister Marilyn says. “It was after Vatican II, when many other ministries were open in the church, that I found myself awakened to the plight and needs of women. Being a volunteer for Hot-



My Inspiration “My life has been like that of the prophet Habakkuk in the Book of Daniel (14:33-36). I feel that God had somehow or other ‘lifted me by the hair of my head’ and placed me in those experiences where God knows I can make a difference in the lives of others and in the life of the church.”

line, I realized what little was available for women and children in the way of shelter and safe haven.”

In 1973, she founded Community House for Women and Children. Later, she spent four years committed to the people of the Amazon, in Brazil, and to pastoral ministry at St. Andrew Parish, Erie. She ministered as a counselor, spiritual director and retreat director at Ecclesia Center in Girard from 1994 to 2007. She presently serves as a spiritual director.

Sister Marilyn earned a master’s in education in guidance/counseling from Gannon University, which honored her in 1996 with its Alumna of the Year award. She earned her bachelor’s degree in education from Villa Maria College in 1963, and received training in Ignatian spirituality as a spiritual director at the Romero Center of Detroit. She then did post-graduate training as a Gestalt therapist at the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland from 1994-98.

Sister Marilyn’s ministry work also includes serving as director of campus ministry and director of admissions at Villa Maria College. She taught at Holy Spirit School, Columbus, Ohio; Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg; Villa Maria Elementary, Erie; and Blessed Sacrament, Erie.

She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in August 1953 and professed her final vows in April 1959.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR (CURRENT)

FOUNDER

- Community House, Erie

PASTORAL MINISTRY

- St. Andrew, Erie

THERAPIST AND SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

- Ecclesia Center, Girard

DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS MINISTRY

- Villa Maria College, Erie

DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

- Villa Maria College, Erie

TEACHER

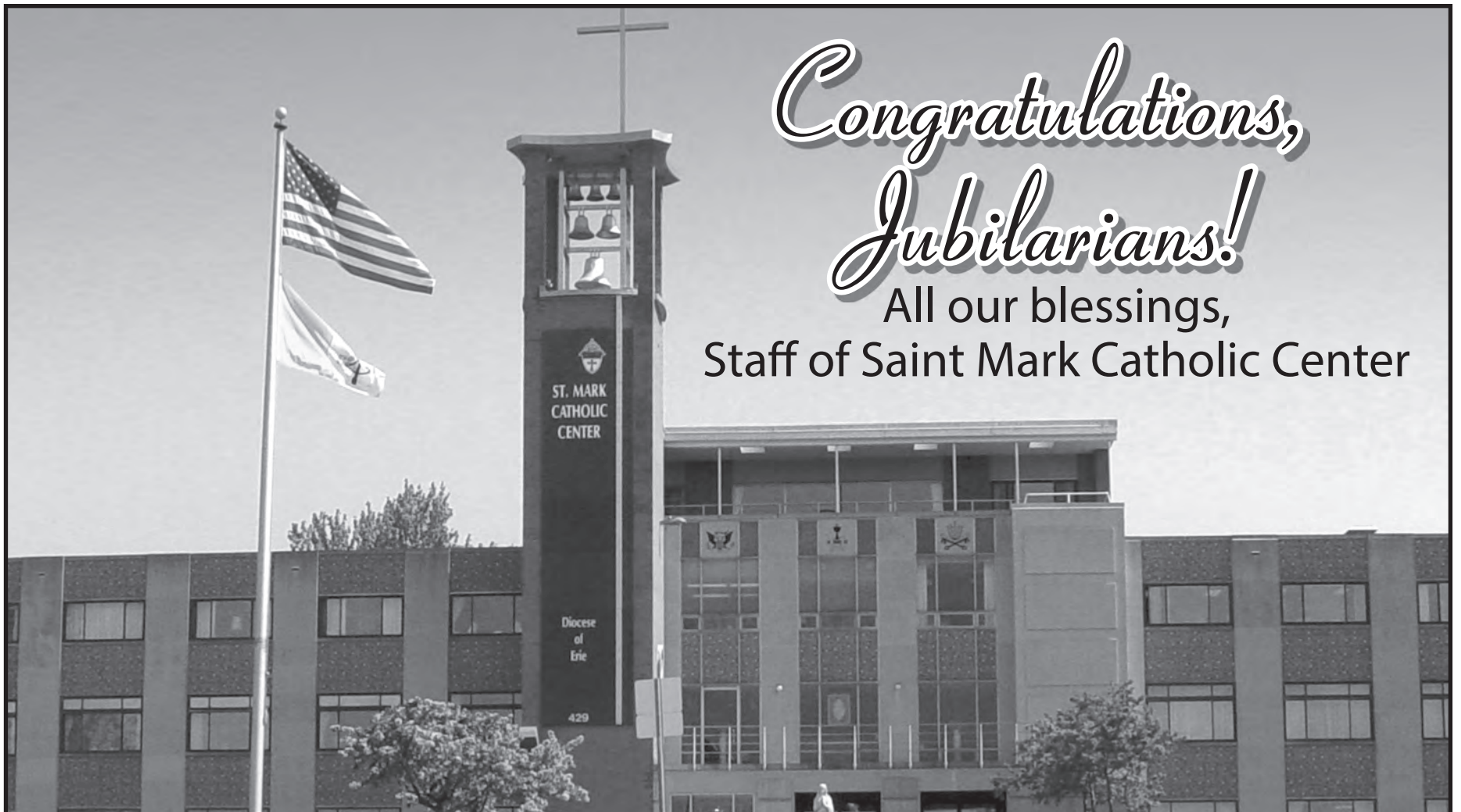
- Holy Rosary School, Johnsonburg

- Villa Maria Elementary, Erie

- Blessed Sacrament, Erie

- Holy Spirit School, Columbus, Ohio

*Congratulations,
Jubilarians!*
All our blessings,
Staff of Saint Mark Catholic Center





ST. CHARLES, NEW BETHLEHEM
WOULD LIKE TO
CONGRATULATE THE FOLLOWING JUBILARIANS:

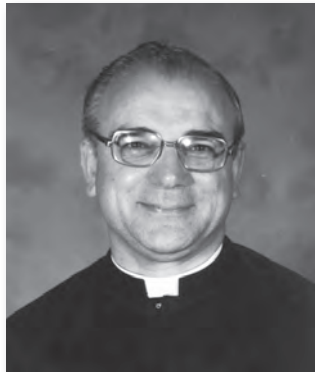
Rev. Charles Skinner - 60 years

Sr. Rita Panciera, RSM - 60 years

Rev. William Laska - 25 years

REV. DONALD E. BERDIS 50 YEARS

In his 33 years as pastor of Our Lady of Fatima-St. Ann Parish in Farrell, Father Donald Berdis has watched the population of the town dwindle from 16,000 to 4,000. The closing of mills and foundries and other industrial plants has hit the economy hard in this area of Mercer County.



"We're here as a rock to keep the place going," Father Berdis says of his church.

Assigned as pastor in 1980, Father Berdis, 76, reaches out on a daily basis to the many aging parishioners. He visits the local hospitals almost every day.

Being a dedicated servant is central to Father Berdis' priestly ministry. "To serve others...that's been my whole life," he says.

A native of Holy Family Parish, Erie, Father Berdis attended Holy Family School, Cathedral Preparatory School, St. Mark Seminary and Gannon University, all in Erie. He finished his studies at St. Mary Seminary and University, Baltimore. On May 23, 1963, he was among 16 men ordained to the

My Inspiration "I have come not to be served, but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for the many." —*Matthew 20:28*

priesthood for the Diocese of Erie, the largest ordination class in the history of the diocese.

In May, longtime parishioners at Our Lady of Fatima-St. Ann gathered for a jubilee celebration, thanking Father Berdis for his more than three decades of service to their community.

"I was shaking hands for four hours," he jokes.

Before his appointment as pastor, Father Berdis had been a teacher at DuBois Central Catholic for 17 years. He taught everything from algebra to history to mechanical drawing...whatever was necessary. He loved working with young people.

"It keeps you young and more active. I kept up with inventions and current events and all the changes happening in the church," he explains.

One of the people who most inspired him was the late Msgr. Stephen Meko, pastor at Holy Family Parish in Erie. Msgr. Meko, he says, always cared deeply for parish students and taught religion on a regular basis. One time, while playing basketball with some students, Msgr. Meko noticed that a young boy didn't have sneakers. He went out and bought him a pair.

"That's the kind of man he was," Father Berdis recalls.

Besides teaching and serving as pastor in Farrell, Father Berdis served on the board of directors for Kennedy Catholic High School in Hermitage.

PASTOR (CURRENT)

- Our Lady of Fatima-St. Ann, Farrell

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- Immaculate Conception, Brookville

TEACHER

- DuBois Central Catholic, DuBois

BOARD MEMBER

- Kennedy Catholic High School, Hermitage



The family of DCC congratulates all of the clergy and religious celebrating their anniversaries!

With special gratitude to:

Sr. Michele Leehan, RSM • Rev. Donald E. Berdis

Rev. William A. Rice • Rev. Alexander D. Amico

Deacon Gene Miller



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SR. M. KEVIN BERDIS, OSF 50 YEARS

The colorful life-size statue of Jesus, Mary and Joseph faces all who walk through the front doors of Holy Family School at 1153 E. 9th St., Erie. Never too far away—in the principal’s office of this inner-city school—is Sister M. Kevin Berdis.

“This little school means so much to me,” says Sister Kevin, who has been principal the past 15 years.

Of course it would. Sister Kevin was born and raised at Holy Family Parish. She and her 13 brothers and sisters all attended school there, with four of them going into the religious life. To say that Sister Kevin has a mission is putting it mildly.

Celebrating her 50th anniversary as a School Sister of St. Francis, Sister Kevin is looking forward to more years leading Holy Family School. She has watched it transform from a large neighborhood school to one that has only 112 students, most of whom are non-Catholic. Of the nine teachers, Sister Kevin is the only religious left.

“We’re doing OK for a small inner-city school,” she says. “We’re evangelizing. I see this as our mission here. We practice our Catholic faith and we teach the students about being Catholic. I really feel it’s a mission to teach here in the inner-city.”

She is determined to keep the school vibrant because, as she says, “edu-



cation is the key to getting out of poverty.” In its 97th year, Holy Family, she says, is a guiding light for many eastside families.

“No matter where you go or where you’ve been, everyone is searching and crying out for spirituality,” Sister Kevin explains. “I see that in our families. They want to learn more about God.”

Sister Kevin has been principal at Holy Family since 1998. She taught there from 1975-76, and at St Ann School, Farrell, in 1970. She also taught and served as principal at schools in the dioceses of Greensburg, Pittsburgh and Altoona.

She holds a master’s degree in administration from Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio, Texas, and a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Carlow University, Pittsburgh. She is an alumnus of Mount Assisi Academy, Pittsburgh. From 1989-91, she was a missionary at St. John’s Mission in South Africa.

Sister Kevin made her first vows as a School Sister of St. Francis in August 1963, and her final vows in August 1968. This June, she and her brother, Father Donald Berdis, celebrated their golden jubilees. Father Berdis, who is pastor of Our Lady of Fatima-St. Ann, Farrell, was the main celebrant of Sister Kevin’s anniversary Mass at the School Sisters of St. Francis motherhouse in Pittsburgh.

My Inspiration “Go out and preach the Gospel, and use words if necessary.”—*St. Francis*

PRINCIPAL (CURRENT)

- Holy Family School, Erie

TEACHER

- Holy Family School, Erie
- St. Ann School, Farrell
- Schools in the dioceses of Pittsburgh, Greensburg, Altoona-Johnstown

MISSIONARY

- St. John’s Mission, South Africa

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MSGR. JOSEPH K. BOBAL

50 YEARS

*M*sgr. Joseph Bobal was drawn to the priesthood because of his family's strong faith.

"My mother and father were very religious and they encouraged me, although they didn't say anything either way. Their faith was very strong," he says. "I also had an uncle and a cousin who were both priests."

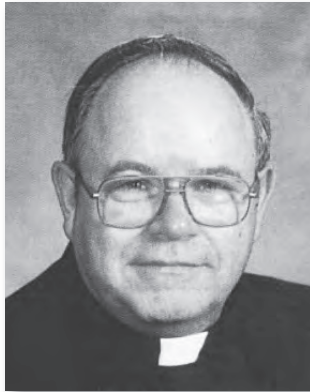
Born in Cleveland, Msgr. Bobal attended elementary schools in Jefferson County, Ohio. His family moved to Reynoldsville, where he attended Winslow Township High School. He studied at Penn State University, St. Bonaventure University, Christ the King Seminary in Olean, N.Y., and Gannon University before he was ordained for the Diocese of Erie on May 23, 1963. He began his priesthood as a teacher at Venango Catholic High School. During his 14 years there, he was impressed with his students.

"Those young people were really solid individuals," Msgr. Bobal says. "That experience made my personal faith a lot stronger."

And, naturally, he made quite an impact on his students. "Every so often, someone will tell me or I will get a note about how I made an influence on their life," Msgr. Bobal says. "It's very humbling."

In 1984, Msgr. Bobal was named dean of the Clearfield Deanery, which covers the southeastern portion of the diocese in Clearfield County, while serving as pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Osceola Mills. In 1997, he became leader of the St. Mary Deanery, while serving as pastor of St. Leo Magnus Parish in Ridgway. He also served a five-year term on the Presbyteral Council.

In the fall of 1983, Msgr. Bobal says he experienced the most significant event of his priesthood. He received a scholarship from the diocese to study at the North American College in Rome. He spent three months in intense studies of



theology, scripture and church renewal and also joined other priests from around the world in a private audience with Pope John Paul II.

Throughout his priesthood, Msgr. Bobal focused on the church and a loving Christ. Those are two things that everyone in the church and in society needs to focus on today, he says.

"Somehow, we have to work harder at rejuvenating our faith. Faith in a lot of our young people today has waned," he says. "Many have drifted away or put themselves in a situation that lacks love. I think it's one of the saddest facts right now. We have to work to bring about greater love of the church and for Christ himself."

Currently, Msgr. Bobal is retired and living in Reynoldsville.

My Inspiration "Benedictine Sister Maureen Tobin was the one who helped me get started in the education work I had to do. She was a very solid sister."

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Oil City

- St. Venantius, Rouseville

PASTOR

- St. Anthony, Walston
- Immaculate Conception, Osceola Mills
- Christ the King, Houtzdale
- St. Leo Magnus, Ridgway
- St. Timothy, Curwensville
- St. Bonaventure, Grampian

DEAN

- Clearfield Deanery
- St. Mary Deanery

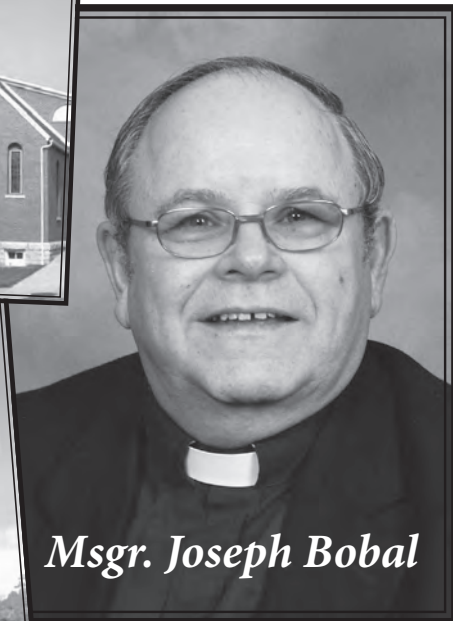
PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Agnes, Morrisdale
- St. Mary, Reynoldsville

DIOCESAN BOARD

- Presbyteral Council

The parish families of St. Timothy Church in Curwensville and St. Bonaventure Church in Grampian **congratulate you for 50 years of service in the priesthood.** Thank you for your humble, kind and loving service to the people of our parishes!



Msgr. Joseph Bobal

SR. MARY ELLEN CUMMINGS, OSB 50 YEARS

Being a Benedictine sister the past 50 years has far surpassed anything that Sister Mary Ellen Cummings could have imagined.

"It has been a gift to have loved every place I taught, every place I lived and every place I worked from North East to Oil City to Sharon to Fryburg to Erie," she says. "Teaching at St. Benedict Academy in Erie was a dream come true."

From a young age, Sister Mary Ellen had considered mission work. That aspiration became reality when she became a missionary with the Erie Diocesan Mission of Friendship in Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico. For five years, she worked with the poor there, an experience that changed her life forever.

When she returned to Erie, she worked at Pax Christi USA and at St. Benedict Education Center as a caseworker. Currently, she works at the Inner-city Neighborhood Art House as a receptionist and assistant to the program director. She discovered that mission work can be done close to home.

"None of this would have been possible without the blessings of community life and my sense of humor that came from my Mom and each of my brothers and sisters," she says. "Benedictine monasticism has been a good fit for me since the day I entered. Daily prayer keeps me grounded and Eucharistic liturgy keeps me nourished."

She is excited for the jubilee celebration, saying "it is one more way to truly enter into a full, communal, spiritual celebration of each other's lives."



My Inspiration "Kindness and caring are the first steps in the work of peace and justice."

ASSISTANT PROGRAM DIRECTOR/RECEPTIONIST (CURRENT)

- Inner-city Neighborhood Art House, Erie

TEACHER

- St. Gregory Elementary, North East
- St. Joseph Elementary, Oil City
- St. Michael, Fryburg
- St. Joseph, Sharon
- St. Benedict Academy, Erie

MISSIONARY

- Erie Diocesan Mission of Friendship, Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico

CASEWORKER

- St. Benedict Education Center, Erie

St. Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish, North East, PA



Weekend Assistant:

Very Rev. Michael T. Kesicki, 25 years

St. Gregory School Faculty

Sr. Phyllis Weaver, OSB, 70 years

Sr. Mary Ellen Cummings, OSB, 50 years

Congratulations and God Bless!

SR. MARY DREXLER, SSJ 50 YEARS

Sister of St. Joseph Mary Drexler heard the call to religious life at an early age. Taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph at Sacred Heart School and Villa Maria Academy, both in Erie, she was drawn to who they were and how they served.

"I knew I wanted to be a teacher and I saw that modeled in the women who taught me in almost every grade and subject in my formative years," she recalls.

It helped that her family life was integrated with the activities of the parish. Fellow parishioners at Sacred Heart instilled in her a love of God through their example of faith and dedication.

Sister Mary, formerly Sister Mary Kristen, was born in Erie and graduated from Villa Maria Academy. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College, Erie, and a master's in administration at Xavier University in Cincinnati. In 1963, she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph and professed her final vows in 1971.

For 20 years, from 1964-84, Sister Mary taught at many schools throughout the Diocese of Erie. She served as assistant administrator at Villa Maria Academy from 1984-90, and served for 13 years in her congregation's vocation/formation office. She was campus minister at Penn State-Behrend, and since 2006 has served as principal of Villa Maria Academy.

Sister Mary's primary inspiration comes from St. Luke's account of the Emmaus journey when the disciples see Christ in the breaking of bread.

"This encounter unfolds slowly ... walking and talking, sharing ideas, dreams, hopes and fears," Sister Mary explains. "Then Jesus enters the story. How true this is in life for me (and perhaps for others).

I go about my days walking, talking, sharing hopes and dreams and sometimes disappointments and fears and Jesus enters life. I am not always sure I recognize Jesus but he comes and walks with me. Often in the breaking of the bread, I come to know him more deeply, see him more clearly and respond to him more faithfully."

She credits Father Jerry Simmons for his support to her and her family over the years.

"He helped shape who I am today," Sister Mary says. "I will always be grateful for his wisdom, humor, insights and deep love for me and my family."

Clara Drexler, Sister Mary's mother, represented the fullness of faith, too.

"She never lost faith," Sister Mary says. "Her devotion to Mary, the Mother of God, I am certain, helped her through many challenges and difficulties."

My Inspiration "My religious life has been about a journey of faith, hope and love. On that journey, I have met many people who have revealed Christ to me and I hope that in some small way I have done that for them as well."



PRINCIPAL (CURRENT)

- Villa Maria Academy, Erie

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

- Villa Maria Academy, Erie

TEACHER

- Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- Our Lady's Christian, Erie
- St. Bernard, Bradford
- Villa Maria Elementary, Erie
- Notre Dame, Sharon
- St. John the Baptist, Erie
- Villa Maria Academy, Erie

VOCATION/FORMATION OFFICE

- Sisters of St. Joseph, Erie

CAMPUS MINISTER

- Penn State-Behrend, Erie

REV. JOHN M. FISCHER 50 YEARS

A daily ritual gets Father John Fischer ready to go each day. “I exercise for an hour, pray for an hour and read something stimulating on religion every day,” he says. “God’s agenda emerges gradually or infiltrates my being. I have learned more balance and harmony in life, especially in retirement.”

In his 50th year of priesthood, Father Fischer carries with him a love of the outdoors, where God’s presence is most glorified.

“The spiritual life is an adventure with God and others, just as exciting as turkey hunting or steelhead fishing,” he says.

Father Fischer was ordained on May 23, 1963. His call to the priesthood stems from his faith-filled upbringing both at home and at St. John the Baptist Parish, where he grew up in Erie.

“I experienced the attraction to the priesthood as early as second grade at St. John School,” he says. “Our day started with daily Mass, and my home life centered on the parish. My family, along with school and parishioners, nourished my desire.”

After graduating from Cathedral Preparatory School, he attended Gannon University and St. Mary Seminary and University in Baltimore.

He later studied canon law at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and Mundelein College in Chicago. He also pursued a master’s degree in education at Gannon and in Christian spirituality at Creighton University in Omaha, Neb. Additionally, he studied psychology at the University of California at San Diego and Scripture at Franciscan Univer-



My Inspiration “What holds life together is the risen Christ.”

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. John the Baptist, Erie
- St. Brigid, Meadville
- Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg
- St. Joseph, Sharon

PASTOR

- St. Raphael, Eldred
- St. Cyprian, Waterford
- St. Matthew-in-the-Woods, Erie
- St. Lawrence, Albion

sity in Steubenville, Ohio.

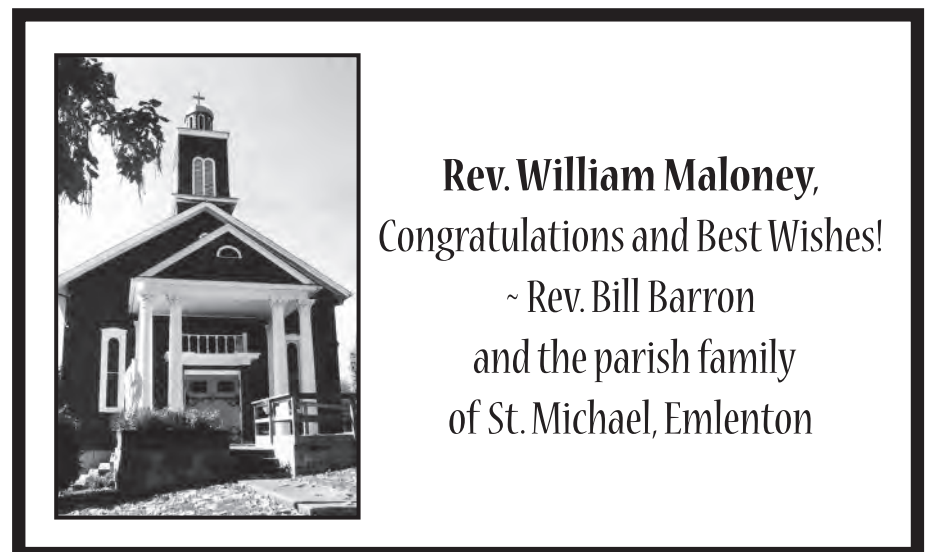
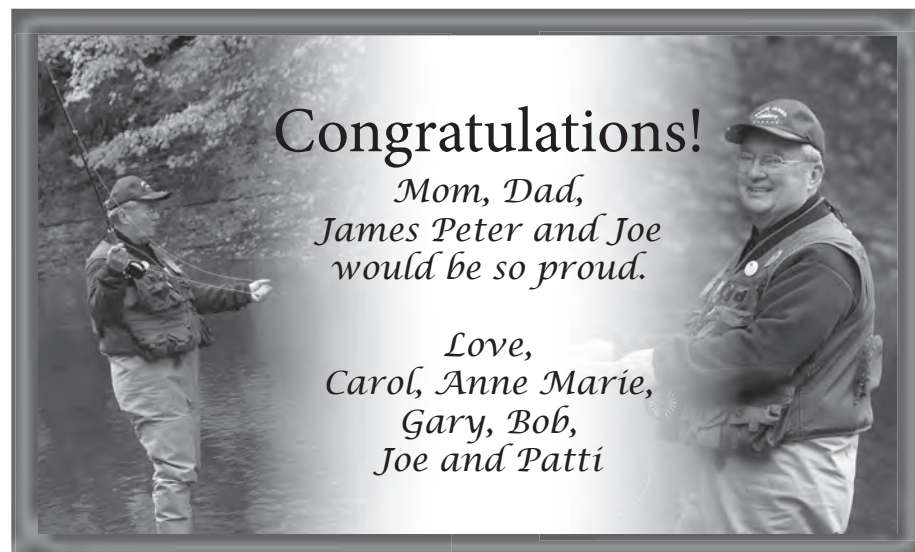
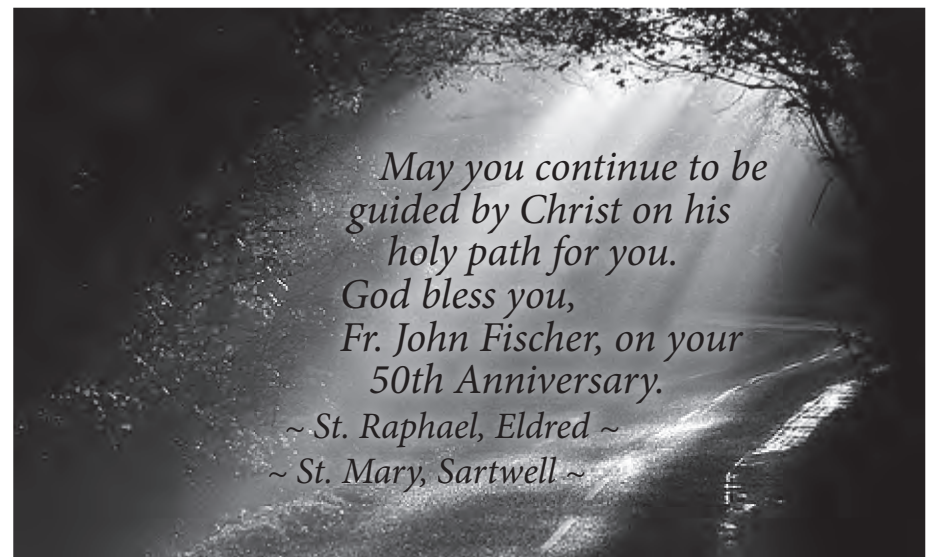
Two of Father Fischer’s former teachers, Father Raymond Brown and Dr. Ward Peterson, inspire him.

“Both shared their academic skills, along with their love for God,” he says. “Dr. Peterson’s love of language and words challenges me to this day. Father Brown had a love for Scripture.”

Praying with Scripture has energized Father Fischer over the years. If he had one final homily to give, he would focus on God’s love, which he calls “that sacred space and place where God dwells.”

“And part of that homily would include giving thanks to all who have intersected my life during these 50 years of grace,” Father Fischer adds. “People have given me the opportunity to experience the M&M’s—the miracles and messes—of human and divine life.”

Father Fischer spent the majority of his priesthood, from April 1975 to August 1990, as pastor of St. Raphael Parish in Eldred. He also served as pastor of the former St. Matthew-in-the-Woods in Erie, the former St. Cyprian Parish in Waterford, and St. Lawrence in Albion. Father Fischer also served on the diocesan Marriage Tribunal, worked as spiritual director for Cursillo and has ministered to prisoners during numerous metanoia ministry weekends.



SR. CLAIRE HUDERT, OSB 50 YEARS

Although she had dreamed as a child of serving God in religious life, Benedictine Sister Claire Hudert never thought she would be involved in so many ministries.

In the past 50 years, she has been a teacher, a missionary and a chaplain. Currently, she is chaplain at Polk State Center in Franklin.

She calls each of her ministries “direct service” to God’s people. She taught at St. Benedict Academy, Sacred Heart School and Gannon University, all in Erie. Also, she taught basic reading and math to women at the Erie Diocesan Mission of Friendship in Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico. Now she is a chaplain to mentally challenged adults, teaching them about Jesus and about how much God loves them.

“Looking back, it is clear that God has provided me with the experiences and preparation I needed for each of the ministries in which I have been involved. My various ministries have provided me with challenges and opportunities to show God’s love through my actions—in teaching, feeding, healing, listening, assisting, supporting and comforting,” Sister Claire says.

Sister Claire served at one time as director of religious education at Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion, and as associate director of the Mission Office for the Diocese of Erie.

“Work has most often been a pleasure, and that is a rare gift,” she adds.

Sister Claire considers this jubilee an opportunity to share her joy with all her fellow sisters, with her family and with her friends. Indeed, she spreads her infectious happiness with everyone she meets.

“Together,” she says, “we will celebrate how immensely I have been blessed by God, loved by so many and empowered to bring good and happiness to others.”



My Inspiration
“Ministry is simply love in action.”

CHAPLAIN (CURRENT)

- Polk State Center, Franklin

TEACHER

- St. Benedict Academy, Erie
- Sacred Heart, Erie
- Gannon University, Erie

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

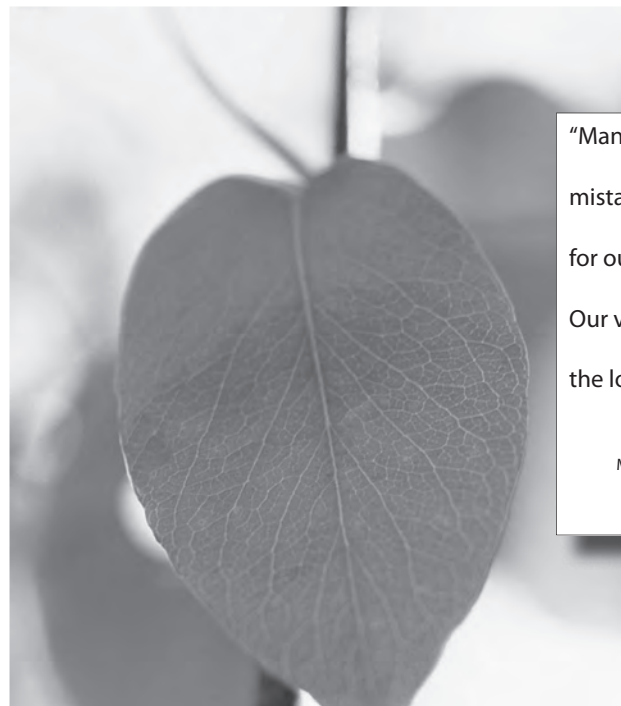
- Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion

MISSIONARY

- Erie Diocesan Mission of Friendship, Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

- Mission Office, Diocese of Erie



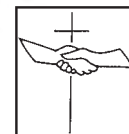
“Many people mistake our work for our vocation. Our vocation is the love of Jesus.”

Mother Teresa (1910-1997)
Albanian-born missionary

God Bless the Jubilarians

Sisters of Mercy of Erie
Benedictine Sisters of Erie
Benedictine Sisters of Elk County
Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania

¡Felicitaciones!



Mission of Friendship respectfully honors Sr. Claire Hudert, OSB and Sr. Mary Ellen Cummings, OSB

on the occasion of their 50th jubilee anniversaries.

Thank you to the clergy & religious who faithfully serve our community. May God continue to enrich you.



Malin Bergquist

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REV. MICHAEL HOPKINS, C.Ss.R.

50 YEARS

Father Michael Hopkins, C.Ss.R., takes his role as “an ordinary guy” quite seriously. In fact, he looks to St. John Neumann as a role model.

“I was always impressed by his life, even way before he was beatified or canonized,” Father Hopkins explains. “He seemed to ‘get dumped on’ over and over again, but he never gave up.”

St. John Neumann’s everlasting trust in God and the goodness in humanity are awe-inspiring to Father Hopkins. He describes St. John Neumann as “a saint for the ordinary guy.”

Father Hopkins urges Catholics to find a way to abandon consumerism.

“Clergy, religious and laity have to figure out some way to pull away from materialism of the modern era,” he adds. “We are being consumed by the false need to get more ‘stuff.’”

Father Hopkins professed his first vows as a Redemptorist on Aug. 2, 1958, and was ordained a priest on June 23, 1963.

“The example of the Redemptorist priests and brothers in my home parish, Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Brooklyn, N.Y., caught my attention,” he says.



My Inspiration “The liturgy in general inspires me, especially the Mass. Quiet time listening before the Blessed Sacrament was and is important.”

“They seemed to like and enjoy what they were doing.”

As a youngster, he was dedicated to the church. Since his ordination 50 years ago, he has served at more than 10 parishes from Vermont to Florida to the U.S. Virgin Islands. From 1969-73, he served at St. Gregory Parish in North East.

In 1999, he returned to the United States after a three-year assignment in the Virgin Islands. He served at St. Peter the Apostle Parish in Philadelphia and then relocated to his native Brooklyn in 2005. He served as province secretary until 2008.

He lives on the Upper East Side of New York City.

If he were to give one last homily, Father Hopkins says he would preach on prayer.

“Especially before the Blessed Sacrament,” he adds. “That kind of prayer or meditation can bring us back to a sense of the spiritual.”

PROVINCE SECRETARY

- Redemptorists, New York

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Baltimore
- St. Boniface, Philadelphia
- St. Gregory, North East
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Bradford, Vt.
- St. Joseph, Hampton, Va.
- Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Boston
- St. Patrick’s, Frederiksted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands
- St. Peter the Apostle, Philadelphia

PASTOR

- Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Salem, Va.
- St. James, Concord, N.C.
- Holy Rosary, Jacksonville, Fla.

MISSION PREACHER

- Redemptorists’ Vice Province, Richmond, Va.

The parishioners of St. Joseph and St. Michael the Archangel in DuBois are very grateful for the spiritual assistance given to us over the years by **Monsignor Joseph Bobal and Fathers William Rice and Alex Amico.** Together you have served the Diocese of Erie for 140 years!



St. Joseph

Congratulations!
Dziękujemy bardzo (Polish)
Labai ačiū (Lithuanian)
Thank you very much.



St. Michael

*Reverend
William A. Rice*



The parish family of Immaculate Conception Church, Immaculate Conception School and Catholic Campus Ministry congratulate our native son, Father Bill Rice, on the occasion of his 50th jubilee. **Thank you, Father Rice, for 50 years of faithful service to the priesthood.**



Our heartfelt appreciation and congratulations go out to the following jubilarians for their accomplishments and support:

50 years



Sr. Mary Drexler, SSJ
Teacher - St. Bernard School

Rev. Howard J. King
Weekend Assistant - St. Bernard Church
Teacher - Bradford Central Christian

60 years

Sr. Emilie Rose LeBoeuf, SSJ

Alumni - St. Bernard School
Home Parish - St. Bernard Church
Teacher - Bradford Christian High School

Sr. Mary Irene Lunger, SSJ
Teacher - St. Bernard School

Sr. Millicent Zimmer, SSJ
Religious Education - St. Bernard Church

**St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church &
St. Bernard Elementary/Middle School
Bradford, PA**



REV. HOWARD J. KING 50 YEARS

In his 50 years as a priest, Father Howard King has been most impressed with the level of spirituality and friendliness of his parishioners from Erie to Florida.

Ordained in Erie on May 23, 1963, Father King's first assignment was at St. Titus Parish in Titusville. The last parish he served in the Diocese of Erie was Church of the Good Shepherd in West Middlesex. The people, he says, care deeply about others in their communities.

"I have been touched by the spirituality of the people I have served," he says.

Father King, who grew up in Sharon, was first inspired by the spirituality of the priests at his home parish of St. Joseph.

"They were easy to talk to, rather than being evasive," he recalls.

Father King graduated in 1955 from Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie, and then studied at Gannon University for two years before enrolling at St. Bonaventure University, Olean, N.Y., where he earned a bachelor's degree



My Inspiration "I have been touched by the spirituality of the people I have served."

in philosophy.

He taught at Bradford Central Christian High School from 1964-77. He served as parochial vicar at St. Titus, Titusville, and St. Callistus in Kane. He was weekend assistant at St. Bernard in Bradford; and was pastor at Good Shepherd, West Middlesex; St. Francis, Bradford; and Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Lewis Run.

Every summer from 1970-75, he attended the Mathematics Institute at the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt. He retired on Sept. 16, 2008, and now lives in The Villages in Florida. On weekends, he celebrates Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wildwood, Fla.

"Father King has been a blessing to our parish," Father Peter Sagorski, the former pastor at St. Vincent de Paul, said in an interview in the Diocese of Orlando last March. "He is a down-to-earth servant of God. Our parishioners love him."

According to *Florida Catholic* newspaper, Father King was honored with other jubilarians of the Diocese of Orlando during the Chrism Mass at St. James Cathedral in Orlando on March 27.

WEEKEND ASSISTANT (CURRENT)

- St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Wildwood, Fla.

TEACHER

- Central Christian High School, Bradford

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Titus, Titusville
- St. Callistus, Kane

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. Bernard, Bradford

PASTOR

- Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Lewis Run
- St. Francis, Bradford
- Good Shepherd, West Middlesex

Congratulations on 50 years of faithful service!

*Sr. Laura Vallimont,
O.S.B.*



St. Joseph Church and School, Lucinda

WE CONGRATULATE AND THANK
SR. MARCIA SIGLER, OSB
ON HER 50TH JUBILEE!



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The parish family of
St. Bonaventure Church
in Grampian
congratulates you,
Father Rice,
on 50 years
of priestly service.



Congratulations to Jubilarians:
MSGR. JOHN SWOGER
and **REV. WILLIAM RICE!**



We thank you for your 50 years of service to Christ and his church.
With love from the parishioners of
St. Michael the Archangel Church in Fryburg

SR. PAT LUPO, OSB 50 YEARS

As a young woman of 18, Pat Lupo was first introduced to the age-old Benedictine concept, “Listen with the ear of your heart.” The Benedictines of Erie challenged her to join their community and promote and model sacred actions.

“This Benedictine community enabled both my environmental and Central American ministries,” Sister Pat says. “I am the woman that I am today because of my many Benedictine mentors.”

Her passion for the environment and for her work in Central America, especially El Salvador, led her to wonderful opportunities and lifelong friendships. After teaching at the elementary, secondary and college levels, mainly in the areas of science and environmental education, she led environmental programs at Glinodo Center and EarthForce, now Earth Action.

Sister Pat served on local, regional and international environmental boards and received a number of awards for her environmental work. She is involved in Central America outreach and has taken part in a number of related projects. Currently, she teaches at the Inner-city Neighborhood Art House in Erie.

She looks to Thomas Berry, a priest of the Passionist order, for inspiration.

“Thomas Berry talked about the ‘Great Work.’ We each have a ‘Great Work’ to be about; each day we are called upon to act,” she says. “Will our actions be sacred actions? Are we able to surrender to the story that is unfolding around us and to embrace the mystery and be a positive force in our communities, our neighborhoods, our world?”



My Inspiration “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has.”

—Margaret Mead

TEACHER

- Inner-city Neighborhood Art House (current)
- St. Stephen, Oil City
- Immaculate Conception, Clarion
- St. Joseph, Oil City
- St. Benedict Academy, Erie
- Mercyhurst University, Erie
- All Saints, Wycliffe, Ohio

ACTIVE OUTREACH (CURRENT)

- Central America

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM DIRECTOR

- Glinodo Center
- EarthForce, now Earth Action

BOARD MEMBER

- Local, regional, state and international environmental organizations, including Pennsylvania Climate Change Advisory Committee

SR. ANNETTE MARSHALL, OSB 50 YEARS

A jubilee is an opportunity to “get back to basics” for Sister Annette Marshall. Even after 50 years as a Benedictine sister, she says she still feels like a beginner.

“Life can get so busy, so fragmented, that it is easy to lose focus,” Sister Annette says. “Marking this 50th anniversary helps me to reflect on the core of who I am and what it means to be a Benedictine.”

A graduate of St. Benedict Academy, Sister Annette recalls being inspired by the joy of Benedictine Sister Mary Philip. Sister Annette wanted to share in that happiness, so she committed herself to the Benedictine community.

She taught a number of years at the elementary school level, serving as principal for 10 years. She became administrator at St. Benedict Academy, and also held a number of other administrative posts, including director of physical resources at Mount St. Benedict and administrator of Glinodo Center.

Currently, Sister Annette is executive director of the Inner-city Neighborhood Art House and is a member of the Monastic Council.

She recalls the years of renewal in the 1960s and 1970s that stripped away the superficial and brought her face-to-face with the core values of prayer, community and ministry.

“The call to social justice, so evident in the lives of the sisters and embraced with courage by the community, freed my spirit and opened my heart so that I, too, could reach out to others,” she adds.

My Inspiration “Each ministry has deepened my commitment to be of service, and each has stretched me in ways I never would have imagined.”



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CURRENT)

- Inner-city Neighborhood Art House

MEMBER (CURRENT)

- Monastic Council

TEACHER

- Mount Calvary, Erie
- St. Joseph, Sharon

PRINCIPAL

- St. Gregory Elementary, North East
- St. Boniface, Erie

ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Benedict Academy
- Glinodo Center

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- Villa Maria Academy

DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL RESOURCES

- Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie

REV. WILLIAM A. RICE

50 YEARS

Father William Rice gave little thought to becoming a priest after he graduated from Immaculate Conception High School in Clarion in 1950.

"But, I had two very strong convictions," he says. "First, my life had to be more than a quest for good and comfortable living. Second, although I did not have a strong desire to do so, I would have to go into the priesthood if Christ wanted me to do so. It took me a while before I would give that possibility a chance to materialize."

After serving two years in Panama in the U.S. Army, Father Rice enrolled at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. He later transferred to St. Mark Seminary in Erie, and then entered Christ the King Seminary in Olean, N.Y. Archbishop John Mark Gannon ordained him on May 23, 1963.

"I have come to comprehend and appreciate that through the priesthood, the Father continues to satisfy man's inner craving for contact with God," Father Rice says. "This is carried out through the sacraments, mainly, and most often through the Eucharist."

Father Rice spent much of his priesthood in the southeastern part of the diocese. He served at St. Francis in Clearfield, St. Michael in DuBois, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Sykesville, St. Mary in Reynoldsville and St. Bernard in Falls Creek. He taught at DuBois Central Catholic High School for the first 11 years of his priesthood. He was pastor at St. Bonaventure in Grampian, St. Mark in Emporium, and St. Adalbert and Holy Trinity, both in Farrell.

While he served as pastor of those various parishes, he was impressed by the

My Inspiration "Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you shall be forgiven. Give, and it shall be given to you: good measure and pressed down and shaken together and running over shall they give into your bosom. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you."—*Luke 6:37-38*

many projects that parishioners undertook. New parking lots, catechetical centers and renovations were some of the many physical improvements. He helped parishioners at St. Mark build a new steeple on their church.

"The great pride, however, was the evidence of spiritual growth of the parish," he says.

He served as administrator of Christ the King in Houtzdale and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Oil City, and he spent time as a Catholic chaplain at SCI Albion, retiring in 2003.

Father Rice sees many vital issues facing Catholics today and is particularly concerned about the future of Catholicism.

"Catholics, and especially Catholic families, should connect clearly and deeply with the Catholic Church," Father Rice says. "The church needs to take on a new pursuit to be able to provide a solid and true Catholic education for its members."



PRIEST IN RESIDENCE (CURRENT)

- St. Michael, Fryburg

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Francis, Clearfield

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. Michael, DuBois
- St. Bernard, Falls Creek
- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sykesville

- St. Mary, Reynoldsville

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Bernard, Falls Creek
- Immaculate Conception, Madera
- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Oil City

PASTOR

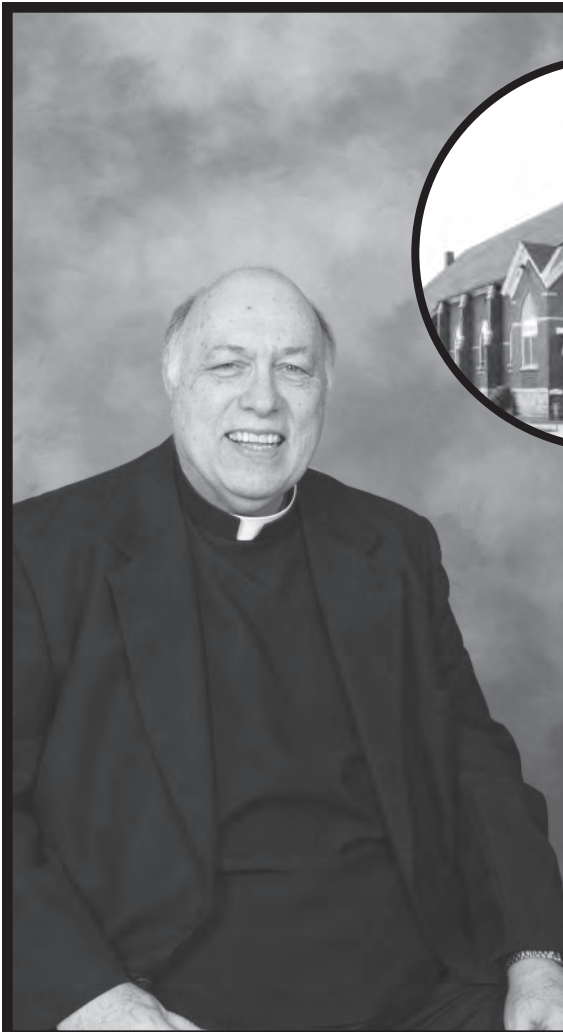
- St. Bonaventure, Grampian
- St. Mark, Emporium
- St. Adalbert, Farrell
- Holy Trinity, Farrell

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

- St. Agatha, Meadville

CHAPLAIN

- Albion SCI, Albion
- Pennsylvania Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Erie



St. Mark (Emporium)
and St. James Mission (Driftwood)

happily congratulate

Rev. William A. Rice

on his anniversary of ordination
to the priesthood.

Thank you for 50 years of service
to our diocese.

REV. PAUL A. SCHILL

50 YEARS

Growing up in Snydersburg, Clarion County, Paul Schill used to walk one and a half miles to school every day for 12 years. The 10th of 11 children, his was a life of faith and commitment, much like his 50 years as a priest.

A native of St. Joseph Parish in Lucinda, he decided to become a priest only after he had worked at General Electric Co. in Erie and after serving for nearly two years in the Korean War.

"At times, different people would ask if I ever considered the priesthood," Father Schill says. "I finally decided one summer to take classes at Gannon College and enter St. Mark Seminary the following September."

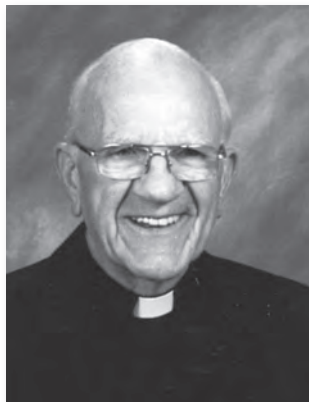
After two years at Gannon, he transferred to St. Mary Seminary and University in Baltimore. All of his studies in philosophy and theology led to his ordination to the priesthood on May 23, 1963.

Father Schill was deeply touched by the faith of the late Msgr. James Peterson, whom he knew during his studies at Gannon.

"For two years I helped to clean his [Msgr. Peterson's] office, which was rarely empty of eager clients who needed attention, as well as the many students in his classes," he says. "I knew him as a counselor and friend through the years."

Possibly taking a cue from Father "Pete," Father Schill has grown deeply interested in spreading peace and love to all he meets.

When asked about the vital issues facing the world today, Father Schill ref-



My Inspiration

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid."

—*John 14:26-29*

erences an article by Thomas Keating, "The Crescendo of Violence." The article examines the effect of war worldwide and reads in part: "The only fully adequate alternative to utmost violence is utmost charity: the practice of mutual love in personal relationships and among nations, even to the point of dying for the sake of survival, enhancement and transformation of the whole human family, past, present and to come."

Through his various pastoral and administrative assignments, Father Schill worked with the Legion of Mary, Christian Family Movement and the Young Christian Movement. He is also a member of Pax Christi USA.

"I think the church has what it takes to preach the Gospel to anyone willing to listen," Father Schill says. "We have so many injustices to correct in society."

Father Schill spent the bulk of his years in the priesthood as the pastor of St. Gabriel Parish in Port Allegany, from 1974-92. For 11 years, he was a senior associate at St. Michael Parish in Greenville. He is now retired and in residence at St. Michael, Greenville.

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE (CURRENT)

- St. Michael, St. Margaret Mission, Greenville

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Luke, Erie
- St. Francis of Assisi, Clearfield
- St. Brigid, Meadville
- Sacred Heart, Sharon
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Erie

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Teresa of Avila, Union City
- St. Anthony, Walston

PASTOR

- St. Gabriel, Port Allegany

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. Anthony, Walston

SPECIAL MINISTRY

- Beloved Disciple, Grove City

SUPPLY PRIEST

- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Oil City

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

- St. Michael, Greenville

CHAPLAIN

- Spencer Hospital, Meadville



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF
SAINT MICHAEL PARISH (GREENVILLE)
AND SAINT MARGARET MISSION (JAMESTOWN)
CONGRATULATE

FR. PAUL SCHILL

ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ORDINATION TO THE HOLY PRIESTHOOD.

SR. MICHELE LEEHAN, RSM

OUR NATIVE DAUGHTER
ON THE OCCASION OF HER 70TH JUBILEE
AS A SISTER OF MERCY



AS YOU HAVE SERVED THE CHURCH, WE NOW HONOR YOU!
MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND ALL JUBILARIANS FOR MANY YEARS!

SR. MARCIA SIGLER, OSB 50 YEARS

Benedictine Sister Marcia Sigler may be a trained health care provider, but she's a sometime poet:

*Flexible branches
Weaving in and around,
Supporting
Stretching—
Coming to the center
Walking to the edge
Seeking together
Healing
Enabling
Being*



She wrote this poem at a community weekend many years ago because it expressed the strength of community.

"Community means so much to me," Sister Marcia says. "I have learned how to be strong and how to be weak, how to rejoice and how to mourn. I have come to understand that living in community is both miraculous and mystical."

Sister Marcia ministered in elementary education for 20 years before

moving into health care as a nurse's aide at UPMC Hamot. After leaving Hamot, she became a nursing assistant in the infirmary at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, where she continues to minister. Sister Marcia also served as a volunteer emergency medical technician for Fairfield Hose Company in Harborcreek Township; she remains affiliated with that organization.

Also, for the past 35 years she has been a weekly volunteer at Emmaus Soup Kitchen in Erie.

NURSING ASSISTANT (CURRENT)

- Mount St. Benedict Monastery infirmary

VOLUNTEER (CURRENT)

- Emmaus Soup Kitchen, Erie

NURSE'S AIDE

- Hamot Medical Center

VOLUNTEER EMT

- Fairfield Hose Company

TEACHER

- St. Mary, Erie
- St. Michael, Fryburg
- St. Stephen, Oil City
- Sacred Heart, Sharon
- Mount Calvary, Erie
- St. Gregory Elementary, North East

My Inspiration "My long involvement as a soup kitchen volunteer has taught me that the giftedness of those who have little materially often is rich in the gifts of presence and generosity."

Congratulations

to Rev. Paul A. Schill

on his 50th year of priestly service.

You are a gift to our diocese
and we appreciate all you have done
and continue to do.

God bless you!

St. Joseph Parish and School in Lucinda



REV. MSGR. JOHN W. SWOGER 50 YEARS

For Msgr. John Swoger, the call to the priesthood hit him like “a bolt of electricity.”

“The thought of becoming a priest hit me a year after I graduated from Oil City High School,” Msgr. Swoger says. “I went to my pastor, Msgr. Louis Kelly, and the rest is history.”

On May 23, 1963, he was ordained.

Msgr. Swoger studied for the priesthood at Christ the King Seminary at St. Bonaventure University, Allegany, N.Y., earning his bachelor’s degree in 1959. He earned a teaching degree from Gannon University, and taught at Cathedral Preparatory School from 1963-79. He is an alumnus of Innis Street Elementary School and Oil City High School, both in Oil City.

Msgr. Swoger says he is inspired by the late Msgr. James Peterson, or “Father Pete,” as he was best known.

“He was my spiritual director while at St. Mark Seminary,” Msgr. Swoger says, “and the work he did with the poor, prisoners and those addicted continues to inspire me.”



My Inspiration “The Mass in its entirety inspires me. We need the whole Mass in order to be inspired.”

In 2000, Pope John Paul II honored Msgr. Swoger as a “Prelate of Honor” with the title monsignor. As an administrator in the Diocese of Erie, he was a member of the Bishop’s College of Consultors from 1999 to 2009 and the Presbyteral Council from 1994 to 2004.

He retired on June 15, 2010, but currently is serving as administrator at St. Philip in Crossingville.

If he had one last homily to give, Msgr. Swoger would preach on hope.

“God takes delight in each one of us,” he says. “So be filled with hope.”

ADMINISTRATOR (CURRENT)

- St. Philip, Crossingville

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. Andrew, Erie

PASTOR

- St. Michael, Fryburg
- St. Luke, Youngsville
- St. Joseph, Oil City

DIOCESAN BOARDS

- Presbyteral Council, Erie
- College of Consultors

CHAPLAIN

- Serra Club, Warren

DEAN

- Oil City Deanery

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Venantius, Rouseville
- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Oil City

- St. Michael, Emlenton
- St. Eusebius, East Brady
- St. Luke, Youngsville

EPISCOPAL VICAR

- Western Vicariate, West Middlesex

SR. LAURA VALLIMONT, OSB 50 YEARS

Before you meet Benedictine Sister Laura Vallimont, be prepared to catch her contagious vitality and sense of humor. The eighth of 18 children, she naturally loves to travel, play cards and generally surround herself with many activities, mostly with the students of the Diocese of Erie.

“I have found life as a Benedictine sister a perfect way to fulfill my desire to serve others and to be a woman of prayer,” she says.

In her 50 years as a Benedictine, she has served as a teacher or as an administrator. In fact, she is still teaching part-time at St. Boniface in Erie.

She has served on the diocesan Youth Advisory Council and was Elk County Catholic’s yearbook adviser, newspaper adviser, freshman class adviser and JV girls’ basketball coach. Additionally, Sister Laura was a PIAA volleyball official and served on several school boards and parish councils. She prods students to become responsible for their actions and choices.

Within the Benedictine community, Sister Laura has served in administrative positions, including as prioress and as vocations director. She served several times as a delegate to the Federation of St. Scholastica, of which she is still a member. She also belongs to the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR). In 2006, she was named recipient of the Pro Ecclesia Et Pontifice Award (for church and pope). This is the highest recognition the church can give to a lay person.



To maintain such an active life, Sister Laura says she finds strength and motivation in the liturgy, especially daily Mass and the Eucharist. The daughter of the late Elmer and Eleanor Vallimont, she attended St. Boniface Grade School, Erie, St. Benedict Academy, Erie, and St. Mary Catholic High School in St. Marys. She attended many colleges, earning a bachelor’s degree in elementary education and master’s degrees in reading and supervision and elementary administration.

In her free time, she has traveled through 48 of the 50 states and studied in Rome in 1999. While in Italy, she had visited many sites including the home of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica.

PART-TIME TEACHER (CURRENT)

- St. Boniface School, Erie

TEACHER

- St. Marys Elementary, St. Marys
- St. Joseph School, Warren
- St. Boniface, Kersey
- St. Joseph, Lucinda
- Sacred Heart, St. Marys
- St. Boniface, Erie
- Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys

MEMBER

- Diocesan Youth Advisory Council
- Eastern Vicariate Vocation Committee
- Several parish councils and school boards

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

- Sacred Heart, St. Marys

PRINCIPAL

- St. Joseph Grade and High School, Lucinda

- St. Boniface School, Kersey

VOCATION DIRECTOR/PRIORESS

- St. Marys Benedictine community

My Inspiration “That in all things God may be glorified.”

The Native Sons of Saint Basil the Great Parish in Coalport

The Reverend Father Justin P. Pino
Pastor, Saint Joseph and Assumption Parishes, Oil City

The Reverend Father Johnathan P. Schmolt
Pastor, Saint Brigid Parish, Meadville

The Reverend Father Jason R. Feigh
Faculty, Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie

Rejoice at the Fortieth Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood of their pastor,

FATHER ALEX AMICO

Ordained on May 18, 1973



Thank you, Father Amico, for showing us a wonderful, holy and dedicated life of priestly service during your years in Coalport and beyond.

May God bless you each day in His abundance!

AD MULTOS ANNOS

“The happiest day of my life was the day I was ordained a priest.”

The Most Reverend Alfred M. Watson, D.D.
Seventh Bishop of Erie, who ordained Father Amico

Father Amico: Our lives and the lives of the people you have touched continue to be happy because of you!

REV. ALEXANDER D. AMICO 40 YEARS

In his 40 years as a priest, Father Alexander Amico has gravitated toward two things: the theme of forgiveness and the celebration of the Eucharist. Joy in your life, he says, will certainly abound by celebrating both the sacrament of reconciliation, followed immediately by accepting the Eucharist at Mass.

“To be forgiven by the unconditional love of our God, who became human and gave us his body and blood as food for the journey is amazing!” Father Amico says. “I am still trying to unpack and figure out that awesome love God lavishes on us every moment of our lives.”

A native of Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Farrell, Father Amico studied at St. Mark Seminary, Gannon University and St. Francis College, Loretto. He was ordained for the Diocese of Erie by Bishop Alfred Watson on May 18, 1973.

As a student in elementary and high school, Father Amico first began to recognize his call to serve the church as a priest. As he worked around his parish and the rectory, he was most impressed with his pastor, Msgr. Geno J. Monti, and how he lived out his vocation every day.

“It was not then and still is not now about the ceremony, vesture or

My Inspiration “Here I am; send me!” —Isaiah 6:8



externals of ministry, but what is at the heart of every priest—yes, every Christian—is the desire not to be served but to serve and imitate Christ to the best of our human ability, as limited as we indeed are,” he says.

He credits the authentic faith of his parents, David and Mary, and of Msgr. Monti for encouraging him to the priesthood. His first assignment was at Holy Rosary Church, Johnsonburg, followed by his position as parochial vicar at St. Joseph, Sharon; St. George and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, both in Erie; and St. Joseph in DuBois. He served as pastor at St. Basil, Coalport, and currently is pastor at St. Paul Parish, Erie.

Father Amico says Catholics seem to be facing moments of doubt today in the face of growing secularism. He advises that all Christians set aside a portion of each day for silence to hear God’s message.

“There is hope for the future,” Father Amico says, “and I pray for the strength of that hope for the next generation of Catholics and priests.”

If he had to give a final homily, Father Amico says he would encourage men to the priesthood and women to the religious life.

“There is no greater gift, I think, than to offer your life—completely and honestly—to God through service in the church,” he says.

PASTOR

- St. Paul, Erie (current)
- St. Basil, Coalport

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg
- St. Joseph, Sharon
- St. George, Erie
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Erie
- St. Joseph, DuBois

The Parish Family of Saint Joseph and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Oil City congratulate and give thanks to God for the wonderful service through presence and ministry of the priests celebrating their jubilees this year who have touched our lives in countless ways.



65 YEARS

FATHER WILLIAM J. MALONEY
Assistant, Saint Joseph Church (1959-1964)

50 YEARS

MONSIGNOR JOSEPH K. BOBAL
Weekend Assistant, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish (1963-1969)

FATHER WILLIAM A. RICE
Administrator, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish (1999)

MONSIGNOR JOHN W. SWOGER
Pastor, Saint Joseph Parish (1999-2010)
Administrator, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish (2000-2010)



Thank you for your service, sacrifice and presence in the church for a combined 215 years!
AD MULTOS ANNOS!

REV. MSGR. DAVID RUBINO 40 YEARS

*M*sgr. David A. Rubino, Ph.D., considers his call to the priesthood a mosaic.

“As fragments of a mosaic ceramic develop into an image, my call has developed over time,” he says. “I am not often sure what the final mosaic image will be, so I try to keep listening.”

Msgr. Rubino, who celebrates 40 years in the priesthood this year, has filled his mosaic by serving in countless educational and administrative roles. Most notably, he held many positions at Gannon University, from teacher to director of public relations, assistant to the president, director of planning and budgeting, and vice president of university relations. Msgr. Rubino was Gannon’s fifth president, from 1992 to 2000.

He currently serves as chaplain to Mercyhurst University’s North East campus and vice president for external affairs at Mercyhurst University in Erie.

Catholic education is vitally important to Msgr. Rubino. Before becoming an administrator, he was a communications arts faculty member at Gannon and an English teacher at Cathedral Preparatory School.

“A critical role of Catholic schools is teaching and developing the faith of our children,” he says. “Similarly, Catholic colleges take that foundation and build on it.”

One aspect of great learning is the ability to listen effectively, an art that Msgr. Rubino says we all must learn.

“As a church, we need to recognize and listen carefully, as well as critically, to all of God’s people. They are replete with lessons,” he says. “Listening to God’s people and acting on their pleas is a challenge of the present that will significantly contribute to the framing of the future.”

Care for the needs of all of God’s people is something Msgr. Rubino saw in his mentor, former Vicar General Msgr. William Hastings, who died in 2011.

“He never drew attention to himself, nor did he ever let the details of



My Inspiration “As a church, we need to recognize and listen carefully, as well as critically, to all of God’s people.”

his life get in the way of the needs of people or the priests he served as vicar general,” Msgr. Rubino says. “Msgr. Hastings was always a gentleman and a gentle man.”

Msgr. Rubino, a native of Sewickley, Pa., entered the seminary at St. Francis College and Seminary in Loretto, where he earned bachelor’s degrees in English and philosophy and a master of divinity degree. He eventually earned a master’s in English from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and two doctorates from the University of Pittsburgh.

Besides his roles in local higher education, Msgr. Rubino served the community in various ways, including membership on the executive committee of French Creek Council of the Boy Scouts of America and as a trustee for Saint Vincent Health System. Msgr. Rubino was a celebrant on the “TV Mass for Shut-ins” from 1986-96.

CHAPLAIN (CURRENT)

- Mercyhurst University, North East
- ### VP FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (CURRENT)

- Mercyhurst University, Erie

PRESIDENT

- Gannon University, Erie

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Philip, Linesville

ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT

- Seton Hill College, Greensburg

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. Patrick, Erie
- Holy Rosary, Erie
- St. Jude the Apostle, Erie
- St. Francis Xavier, McKean

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Andrew, Erie

TEACHER

- Gannon University, Erie
- Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie
- Seton Hall University, New Jersey

OTHER MINISTRIES

- Priest Retirement Residence, Erie
- Catholic Charities, Erie
- LECOM, Erie

SR. CHARLENE SCHAAF, CDP 40 YEARS

*C*harlene SchAAF was attending Carlow University near Pittsburgh when she got to know a few sisters of the Congregation of the Divine Providence.

“They took me to the motherhouse and I just thought that’s where I belonged,” says Sister Charlene, who is celebrating her 40th anniversary in the religious life this year.

A native of St. Luke Parish in Erie, Sister Charlene graduated from Mercyhurst Preparatory School and then earned her undergraduate degree in music education from Carlow in 1973. After she joined her religious community, she taught at a number of schools and parishes in the Pittsburgh area.

Later, she obtained a certificate in health care ministry from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, and a certificate in spiritual direction from the Benedictine Spiritual Formation Program in Denver.

After her studies, she had a chaplain internship from 1995-96 at Presbyterian St. Luke’s Hospital in Denver. She later became spiritual services director at Mount St. Francis Nursing Center in Colorado Springs. She also worked as a chaplain at St. Anthony Central Hospital and Exempla Lutheran Medical Center, both in Colorado.

Of her hospital and spiritual direction ministries, Sister Charlene says,



My Inspiration “Preach the Gospel at all times and, if necessary, use words.”—*St. Francis*

“I have learned about what it’s like to bring a calm, healing presence to people in crisis.”

The deep faith and prayerfulness of her fellow sisters in the Congregation of Divine Providence have helped shape Sister Charlene’s life.

Today, Sister Charlene lives in Erie, taking care of her mother, Eva SchAAF. Her father, Dr. Charles SchAAF, formerly with Saint Vincent Hospital, is deceased.

Currently, she is a part-time chaplain at Hamot UPMC in Erie, and directs the choir at St. Lawrence Parish in Albion. She also teaches music at the Inner-city Neighborhood Art House in Erie.

“People are hungry for music,” she says.

PART-TIME CHAPLAIN (CURRENT)

- Hamot UPMC, Erie

CHOIR DIRECTOR (CURRENT)

- St. Lawrence Parish, Albion

MUSIC TEACHER (CURRENT)

- Inner-city Neighborhood Art House, Erie

CHAPLAIN INTERN

- Presbyterian St. Luke’s Hospital, Denver

SPIRITUAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

- Mount St. Francis Nursing Center, Colorado Springs

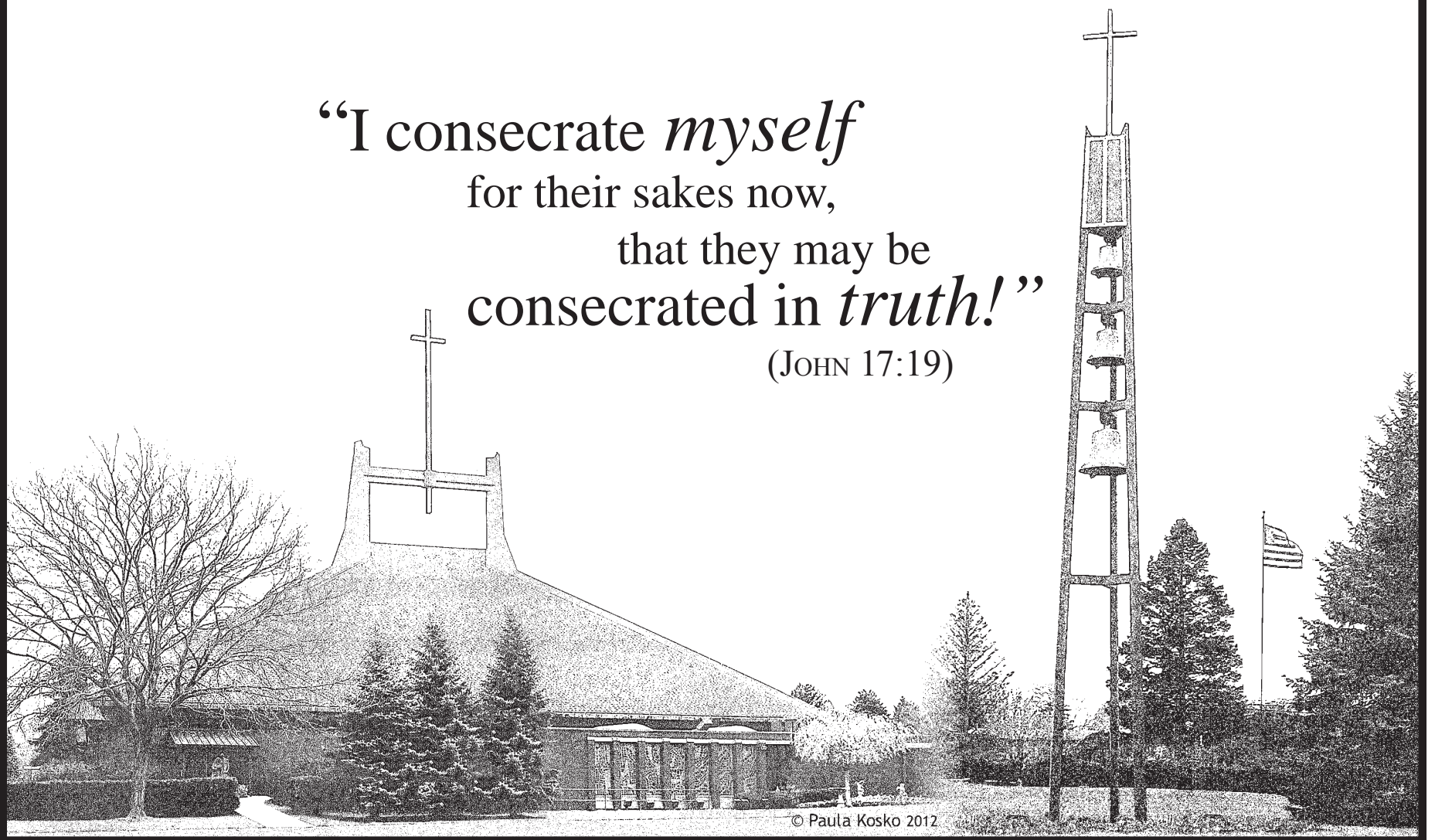
CHAPLAIN

- St. Anthony Central Hospital, Denver
- Exempla Lutheran Medical Center,

The people of St. Jude the Apostle Church give praise and thanks to God for all who have ministered to our families all of these years; teaching us how to live by His Word, and how to share His presence.

*Congratulations to our pastor,
Very Rev. John J. Detisch, V.F.,
on his 25th Anniversary of Priesthood!*

*“I consecrate myself
for their sakes now,
that they may be
consecrated in truth!”*
(JOHN 17:19)



VERY REV. JOHN DETISCH, V.F. 25 YEARS

For two weeks during his sophomore year at Cathedral Preparatory in Erie, the young John Detisch couldn't think about anything else but being a priest.

"I remember our assistant headmaster, then Father Bill Biebel, telling a group of us, 'Guys, you will know what you want to do for the rest of your life when you find yourself day-dreaming about doing something,'" recalls Father Detisch, who now is pastor at St. Jude the Apostle Parish in Erie.

By the time Father Detisch graduated from high school in 1980, he knew he was destined for the seminary, but not right away.

"I wanted to live the college life first, and I was really enjoying my new job at Isaac Baker & Sons Men's Clothing," he explains.

He entered St. Mark Seminary during his senior year at Gannon University in Erie. He kept his job at Baker's and worked every chance he could get...even up until six months before his diaconate ordination.

Father Detisch displays his passion for preaching and giving homilies, saying he tries to give parishioners his "A" game. He refuses to make up something for the sake of filling time.

"I know I only have seven or eight minutes to give them [parishioners] something powerful," he says, "so that they can go back to their lives and just 'keep at it.' I pray that something I say will help them become stronger people, holier people, people who can take on whatever the world throws at them and conquer it."



PASTOR

- St. Jude the Apostle, Erie (current)
- St. Titus, Titusville
- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Erie

DEAN (CURRENT)

- West Erie Deanery, Erie

CAPTAIN CHAPLAIN (CURRENT)

- Fraternal Order of Police, Erie

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. John the Evangelist, Girard
- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Erie
- Blessed Sacrament, Erie

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Erie

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. George, Erie

My Inspiration "Stay strong in the faith that Christ has given to us, regardless of what the rest of the world is doing."

Father Detisch draws his inspiration from the priests of Cathedral Preparatory School in Erie, as well as those who served his home parish of Our Lady of Peace, Erie.

"My family had been very influenced by Msgr. James Daily, Father Charles Kaza and Father Dick Sullivan," he explains.

Father Detisch's theology teacher, Father Frank Przepierski, became a huge influence and was one of the first people to support Father Detisch's vocation. Another mentor was the late Father Pat Engel.

"He was a magnet for us at Prep," he says. "He was a man that could've run any major corporation, could've been married to the most beautiful of women, but he so deeply loved his priesthood and had such a powerful influence on us."

Father Detisch is inspired by his fellow priests, particularly his brother, Father Scott Detisch.

"It really helps to have a brother in ministry, too," he adds. "My brother Scott continues to amaze me, as much as he did when we were growing up."

Father Detisch strongly believes that Catholics need to stop worrying about offending people with their faith. The pastor's job, he explains, is to help people "hang on" as the Apostles did, in the midst of moral decadence, apathy and secularization. He particularly wants to help parishioners see the beauty and glory of God.

"I have a duty to feed them," he says. "As Jesus said to his Apostles when the 5,000 were sitting before them with nothing to eat, 'You feed them.' I am happy, passionate and honored to do just that."

Msgr. Robert Malene and the parishioners of the Church of the Good Shepherd send congratulations to former pastor,

FR. HOWARD J. KING
on his Golden Jubilee

GOOD SHEPHERD
WEST MIDDLESEX



Also congratulations and best wishes to all the jubilarians!

We especially pay tribute to the following from the Western Vicariate:

FR. DONALD BERDIS
FR. PAUL SCHILL
FR. CHARLES SKINNER

Blessings and Thanksgiving

ON YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE.

MSGR. JOHN W. SWOGER (50)
DEACON PHILIP SKERDA (10)



FROM
ST. LUKE,
YOUNGVILLE
&
ST. ANTHONY,
SHEFFIELD



SR. THERESE GLASS, OSB 25 YEARS

Benedictine Sister Therese Glass is beginning to see the world in a single ray of light, just as St. Benedict himself did.

After 25 years in community, that light has made itself known through God's unconditional love, faithfulness and presence in and through everyone, Sister Therese says, adding: "Whoever the person, wherever the place, whatever the situation, whichever the thing, God is in it. God is in whatever is."

She is most grateful to her fellow Benedictines, her family and her friends who have surrounded her with the love of God. When she began her postulancy with the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, she said an inner-voice asked: "Am I here? Am I really here? And how did I get here?" In reply, she could only answer, "Aware or unaware, all my life I've been seeking God."

Sister Therese had 30 years of experience in elementary education, both as a teacher and counselor, before joining the Benedictine community in 1987. She taught at six diocesan

PART-TIME STAFF MEMBER (CURRENT)

- Alliance for International Monasticism (AIM)

PART-TIME PERSONAL SECRETARY (CURRENT)

- Sister Joan Chittister

TEACHER (PRIOR TO BECOMING A BENELECTINE SISTER)

- Sacred Heart, Erie
- St. John the Baptist, Erie
- Blessed Sacrament, Erie
- St. Leo, Ridgway
- St. Mary, Reynoldsville
- St. Patrick, Erie
- Fort LeBoeuf

STAFF MEMBER

- Benet Press, Erie

ASSISTANT MANAGER

- Benetwood Apartments

INSTRUCTOR/INTAKE COORDINATOR

- St. Benedict Education Center

CO-DEVELOPER, ENGLISH PROGRAM FOR RELIGIOUS

- Tanzania, Africa



elementary schools and at Fort LeBoeuf in Waterford.

She since has worked in various capacities with the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, currently serving as part-time personal secretary to Benedictine Sister Joan Chittister and as part-time staff member of the Alliance for International Monasticism USA (AIM). In 2010, she traveled to Tanzania where she helped initiate an English program for African sisters.

THE SERRA CLUB OF ERIE THANKS OUR JUBILARIANS OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

Year after year, priests and women religious in the Diocese of Erie serve the needs of the people of Northwestern Pennsylvania, Catholic and non-Catholic alike.

All too often their service is taken for granted.

The Serra Club of Erie wishes to thank those priests and women religious who are celebrating a jubilee year in 2013, especially our club chaplain, Father Michael Kesicki.

To borrow Winston Churchill's memorable line: "*Never has so much been owed by so many to so few.*"

Thank you for your service. It is appreciated.

The Serra Club of Erie



My Inspiration "Day unto day pours out the story; night unto night makes known the beauty."
—Psalm 19:3



Peace
Joy &
Happiness

St. Lawrence Parish in Albion congratulates
Rev. John Fischer
and Sr. Charlene Schaaf
for their continued service to the church.

Dedicated
Great Person
Kind Friend
Confidant
Father Kesicki
Great Priest
Sensitive
Genuine Smiles
Thoughtful
Highly Learned
HYS
HARBORCREEK
YOUTH SERVICES

VERY REV. MICHAEL T. KESICKI

25 YEARS

A deep love of God—and a desire to share that love—is at the heart of Father Michael Kesicki's vocation as a priest.

"In the work of the church today, we speak about promoting the new evangelization," he says.

As a faculty member and associate vice president at Gannon University, Father Kesicki knows spreading the Gospel—sharing the Good News—needs to permeate everything he does.

"We were created for God, we are loved by God and we are destined for God," he says, simply. For Father Kesicki, the goal is living that teaching and communicating the beauty of the Gospel. He first discovered that awareness as a child.

"I grew up with the incredible witness of my parents as husband and wife," he says. "They're celebrating 54 years of marriage this year and their faith was a steadfast rudder that guided our home."

Anyone who knows the family will attest to the impact Father Kesicki's parents continue to have. Meet them once and you, too, are part of the family.

"Everyone loves my parents," he admits, noting his gratitude that they are still enjoying time with family and friends. "Their relationship with God and with the church has always been at the center of their lives."

Father Kesicki also recognizes that the good example of the priests and Sisters of St. Joseph at Sacred Heart Parish and grade school helped foster his vocation.

"I thought about the priesthood as a possibility when I was in grade school," he says.

He attended high school at St. Mark Seminary, but says he was probably in his senior year before he began to feel it was where he was meant to be.



"At that point I could see that this was where I was being led," he observes. "I had a beginning sense of what it meant to have a relationship with the Lord that had grown out of daily attendance at Mass and a life of prayer."

He looks back at the journey as a joyful one, although, like most, he had moments of wondering if he was doing the right thing.

"But even those moments were good moments," he says. "I learned how to acknowledge my weaknesses and shortcomings; I began to realize God calls us as we

are. It was important to discover who I was and to stand in that truth before God."

Which may explain his love for Psalm 139.

"The older I get, the more I rest on that psalm," he says. "It begins with this sense that God knows me even before I know myself. 'You formed me in my mother's womb... I am fearfully and wonderfully made... search me and know my heart,'" he muses. "It's just a great lesson in prayer and in having confidence that I am known and loved by God."

He tries to share that same message in his roles as rector of St. Mark Seminary and theology professor at Gannon University.

"I want my students to understand that we are to enjoy the life God made for us right now—and that it is best understood when we experience it in relationship with God and with other people," he says. "God made us to be together with him and joined with our brothers and sisters."

For Father Kesicki, sharing that message means being present to God and to others and helping people foster a genuine life of prayer. And it means guiding them against the popular notion that it's possible to be close to Christ without the church, or to enjoy a sense of community without a relationship with God.

"In the Christian vision," he observes, "they're inseparable."

My Inspiration "You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I praise you, because I am wonderfully made; wonderful are your works! My very self you know." —*Psalm 139*

FACULTY (CURRENT)

- Gannon University, Erie
- ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY (CURRENT)**
- Gannon University, Erie
- DIRECTOR OF FORMATION/RECTOR (CURRENT)**

- St. Mark Seminary
- CO-CHAPLAIN (CURRENT)**

- Carmelite Monastery
- Erie Serra Club

WEEKEND ASSIGNMENTS

- St. Gregory, North East
- Harborcreek Youth Services, chaplain

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- Our Lady of Lourdes, Cochranton
- St. Hippolyte, Frenchtown
- St. George, Erie

For services anchored in the church that have touched people's lives through Catholic Charities agencies and programs, we honor

Sr. Claire Hudert, O.S.B. 50 years

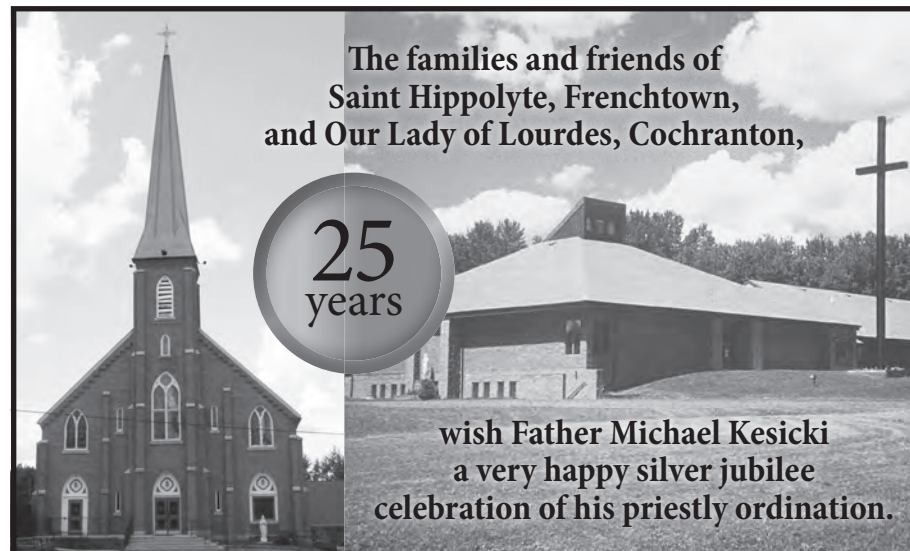
Very Rev. Michael T. Kesicki 25 years

Deacon Eugene J. Miller 10 years

Deacon Robert L. Walker 10 years

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Diocese of Erie



*Warmest congratulations
to all jubilarians, especially:*

**Msgr. Joseph K. Bobal
Rev. William A. Rice
Rev. William M. Laska**



*Christ the King
Houtzdale*

**REV. WILLIAM M. LASKA
25 YEARS**

Father William Laska considers his mother the most inspiring and influential person in his life.

“She shared her profound faith with me, which led me to aspire to be a priest,” he explains.

Father Laska first began to recognize his call to the priesthood in grade school at Ss. Cosmas & Damian Parish in Punxsutawney. The Sisters of Mercy there helped him to sense a hunger for the religious life.

Since his ordination on April 22, 1988, Father Laska has served at five different diocesan parishes. He currently serves as pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Brookville.

He is unabashedly grateful to those who guided him on his faith journey.

“Several clergy have been instructional in my journey,” he recalls. “They have inspired and guided me to where I am today.”

Mostly, he is grateful for his mother’s deep spirituality and support.

“Her profound yet simple faith that she shared with me continues to be such a guiding force in my life and ministry today,” he says.

Father Laska encourages others to slow down and try not to get caught up in the wake of the world. He says it is important to determine our priorities, especially when it pertains to our spiritual lives. People cannot get caught up in the busyness of life.

Lacking a strong spiritual life, he explains, is like driving a car with no gas. “It just won’t go!” he says.

Father Laska’s firm belief in the importance of a strong spiritual life drives his focus. He says Catholics need to be strong in a world where what is accepted goes against the teachings of the church and Jesus. Faithful Catholics must be unafraid to stand up for what is right and truthful. He advises people he meets to stay grounded.

“People spend a lifetime looking for happiness,” he says. “We come to know true and lasting happiness in God.”

Father Laska graduated in 1983 from Gannon University, Erie, and four years later graduated from St. Mary Seminary and University, Baltimore.

My Inspiration “You made us for yourself, oh Lord, and our hearts are restless till they rest in you.” —*St. Augustine*



PASTOR

- Immaculate Conception Parish/
St. Dominic Mission,
Brookville (current)
- St. Charles, New Bethlehem

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Leo Magnus, Ridgway
- Christ the King, Houtzdale
- Holy Rosary, Erie

DIOCESAN BOARD

- Clergy/Continuing Education, Erie
- Presbyteral Council, New Bethlehem

The parishioners of Immaculate Conception and St. Dominic churches offer our deepest thanks and best wishes to our pastor, Fr. William M. Laska. Congratulations on your anniversary of 25 years to the priesthood. God bless you.

**25
Years**

*Immaculate
Conception*



St. Dominic

SR. MALOU SERANNO, RSM 25 YEARS

*M*ercy Sister Malou Lucia Baldon Seranno considers Catherine McAuley and Francis of Assisi among the most influential people in her life. The characters in the story, “The Three Little Monks,” are way up there, too.

Like the dynamic Catherine McAuley and the saintly Francis, the monks live in a forest close to a village and serve God with joy and love, she says.

“I was attracted to follow in the footsteps of Catherine McAuley [founder of the Sisters of Mercy], a woman whose life and mission had resonated well with me,” says Sister Malou, who celebrates her 25th jubilee this year.

Sister Malou grew up at St. Raphael Parish, Legazpi City, Philippines, and first learned about the Sisters of Mercy through a priest who was befriended by the sisters while studying at Gannon University, Erie. She contacted the vocations director for the community, visited the sisters in Erie and eventually entered the community on Aug. 25, 1988. She professed final vows on Oct. 2, 1999.

She has an extensive background in business administration and applied ethics. She earned degrees in religious education and lay ministry from Mercyhurst University, Erie.

In the Philippines, she earned a degree in commerce and a master’s degree in business administration from Divine Word College, Legazpi City. She studied applied ethics at Katholieke Universiteit van Leuven, Flanders, Belgium.

Currently, Sister Malou serves on the justice committee of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas’ New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community (NyPPaW).

“I find that doing the corporal and spiritual works of Mercy have been satisfying to me as a Sister of Mercy. Most importantly, I found that just being a compassionate and joyful presence of God to others is most satisfying to me,” she says.



My Inspiration “Do not fear offending anyone. Speak as your mind directs and always act with more courage when the ‘mammon of unrighteousness’ is in question.” —*Catherine McAuley*

MEMBER (CURRENT)

- Justice Committee, New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community (NyPPaW) Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

- St. Peter Parish, Lewiston, N.Y.

ASSISTANT TREASURER

- Justice co-coordinator, Sisters of Mercy, Erie
- Vocation director, Sisters of Mercy, Erie

DIRECTOR OF SERVICE LEARNING

- Mercyhurst University, Erie
- Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie

FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

- St. Mary Parish, Erie
- Ecclesia Center, Girard

ASSOCIATE CONSULTANT

- Kettering Foundation, Dayton, Ohio

ADMINISTRATOR FOR FINANCIAL AID

- Adult college, Mercyhurst University, Erie

SR. SALLY VILLA, SSJ 25 YEARS

*N*ot until after she was married with four children did Sally Villa feel a call to the religious life.

Born and raised in Rochester, N.Y., in a strong faith-filled home, the young Sally knew that God was calling her. She later married and raised four children until an illness brought her to Erie in 1981. She remained in Erie to recover and became close with the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

“It was a lonely, but growthful time,” she explains. “I had exposure to the Sisters of Saint Joseph at Community House and at Saint Vincent Health Center initially, and later in my parish of St. Joseph.”

She made a parish retreat and went to Stella Niagara for three weeks in 1984. She knew God was calling her to go deeper, but she kept pushing it away. At the end of the retreat, she finally asked herself if she were able to go down the path God wanted her to go. She wrote to a sister who was connected to the Associate Program.

“I was still married but separated at this time,” Sister Sally explains. “I thought I could be an associate until I was free to enter as a candidate.”

After three and a half years, she and her husband were divorced and then she received an annulment before entering the convent. She made her final profession in 1994.

“I was very busy as a nurse at Saint Vincent, going to school to get a bachelor’s in nursing from Villa Maria College and keeping ties with my children,” she says.

In 1976, she earned an AAS nursing degree from Alfred State University in New York. She served as a Hospice nurse for 11 years with Great Lakes Home Health Care and as a nurse at Saint Vincent from 1981 to 2000. She currently ministers as a nurse for the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

Her mother and grandmother are her abiding inspiration. “They were not Catholic, but their love of God and faithfulness to their beliefs have always been a part of the backbone of my own faith journey,” she says.

Sister Sally is grateful to the Sisters of St. Joseph. “I continue to be led and guided daily by the women religious I live and interact with,” she says. “I cannot say how many times a simple act or word has touched or taught me.”

My Inspiration “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves [her] life loses it, and whoever hates [her] life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be.” —*John 12:24-26*



NURSE

- Sisters of St. Joseph, Erie (current)
- Great Lakes Home Health Care, Erie
- Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie

*The Lake Erie
College of
Osteopathic
Medicine and
its health
care partners
would like to
congratulate
Msgr. Rubino
on celebrating
40 years of the
priesthood!*



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Millcreek Community Hospital

FOUR BENEDICTINE MONKS WITH TIES TO THE DIOCESE OF ERIE CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES

Anniversaries mark monastic professions or ordinations to the priesthood

REV. DANIEL C. WOLFEL, OSB 65 YEARS

Benedictine Father Daniel C. Wolfel is marking his 65th anniversary as a member of the Benedictine order at Saint Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe.

A native of St. Marys, he attended St. Mary's Parochial School and Central Catholic High School in St. Marys, and in 1946 graduated from Saint Vincent Preparatory School. He received a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Saint Vincent College in 1950, and a master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary. He also studied college business management at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Father Wolfel made his simple profession of vows on July 2, 1948, and solemn profession of vows on July 11, 1951. He was ordained a priest on May 22, 1954.

In the Diocese of Erie, Father Wolfel served as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, St. Marys, from 1998 to 2002. From 2003 to the present, he has served as senior priest at Queen of the World Parish and at St. Mary Parish, both in St. Marys.

Besides serving in the Diocese of Erie, Father Wolfel served parishes in the dioceses of Greensburg, Pittsburgh, Altoona-Johnstown, and Youngstown, Ohio. He was socius of novices at Saint Vincent, assistant curator at Saint Vincent Museum and a religious instructor at Saint Vincent Preparatory School. He was named assistant treasurer of Saint Vincent Archabbey in 1966, and served as assistant pastor at Ascension Parish, Jeannette; St. Gertrude Parish, Vandergrift; and St. Boniface Parish, Pittsburgh. He assisted in weekend ministry at the Greene County parishes of Nemaquin, Crucible and Rices Landing, and was associate pastor of St. Boniface Parish, Pittsburgh; St. Benedict Parish, Canton, Ohio; St. Gertrude Parish, Vandergrift; St. Bruno Parish, South Greensburg; and Sacred Heart Parish, Jeannette.

From 1977-80, he was pastor at St. Benedict Parish, Canton, and then became pastor at St. Bernard Parish, Hastings, and St. Bruno Parish and St. Nicholas Parish, both in Nicktown. In 1993, he was named pastor of the clustered parishes of St. John the Baptist, Summerhill, and Immaculate Conception, New Germany.

Father Wolfel has been involved with Knights of Columbus councils and assemblies since 1954. He has been active with senior citizens and scouting. Since 1961, he has been a member of the Missionary Union of the Clergy in the United States.



SERVICE TO THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

- Senior Priest, Queen of the World Parish, and St. Mary Parish, both in St. Marys (current)
- Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, St. Marys, 1998 to 2002

REV. JEREMY BOLHA, OSB 60 YEARS

Father Jeremy Bolha is celebrating his 60th anniversary as a Benedictine monk this summer.

A native of Wilpen, Pa., he attended Holy Trinity Roman Catholic School and Ligonier High School. He is a 1950 graduate of St. Vincent Preparatory School and received a bachelor's degree from Saint Vincent College in 1955. He graduated from Saint Vincent Seminary in 1959.

He made simple profession of vows on July 2, 1953, and solemn profession of vows on July 11, 1956. He was ordained before Bishop Hugh Lamb at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, on May 23, 1959.

In the Diocese of Erie, Father Bolha served as pastor at Queen of the World Parish, St. Marys, from 1981-85, and served as associate pastor there from 1995 to 2000. He was senior priest at Sacred Heart Parish, St. Marys, from 2003-08, retiring to the archabbey in 2008.

Since his ordination, Father Jeremy served as socius of novices at Saint Vincent Archabbey for two years and as a prefect in the preparatory school for two years. He was assistant pastor at Ascension Parish, Jeannette, director of maintenance at Saint Vincent, and assistant pastor at St. Mary's Parish, Pittsburgh.

He was associate pastor and pastor of St. Bruno Parish, South Greensburg, and was pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Jeannette. He was appointed parochial vicar at Saint Benedict Parish, Carrolltown, parochial vicar at Saint Cecilia Parish in Whitney, and Sacred Heart Parish in Youngstown.



SERVICE TO THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

- Pastor, Queen of the World Parish, St. Marys, 1981-85
- Associate pastor, Queen of the World, St. Marys, 1995 to 2000
- Senior priest, Sacred Heart Parish, St. Marys, from 2003-08



***Congratulations
& Many Thanks***
to all the jubilarians
celebrating this year.

St. Teresa, Union City

In memory of Msgr. James Peterson

REV. JOHN-MARY TOMPKINS, OSB 25 YEARS

Father John-Mary (John W.) Tompkins, O.S.B., has been a Benedictine monk for 25 years.

A native of Troy, N.Y., Father John-Mary grew up in Willingboro, N.J., and graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in 1978. He received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., graduating in 1982 with a bachelor of science degree. He served as a military police officer from 1982 until his entrance into the monastery in 1987, with assignments in Germany and northern Virginia.

Father John-Mary entered Saint Vincent Archabbey on July 1, 1987, and entered the novitiate on July 10, 1987. He made his first profession of monastic vows on July 10, 1988, before Archabbot Paul Maher, O.S.B., at the Archabbey Basilica. He professed his solemn profession of vows on July 11, 1991, before Archabbot Douglas Nowicki, O.S.B.

In the Diocese of Erie, he served as pastor of Queen of the World Parish, St. Marys, from 2004-06.

Currently, he is on the faculty at Saint Vincent Seminary. In 2010, he was appointed vice rector and director of field education at Saint Vincent Seminary. He is director of postulants in the archabbey formation program and serves as chaplain of the Saint Vincent College Women's Auxiliary. Since 2006, he has served as the Catholic chaplain at Latrobe Area Hospital.

Father John-Mary has led numerous retreats at Saint Vincent, and has led the Encounter with Silence retreat at Saint Emma Monastery in Greensburg. From 1998 to 2000, he served as chaplain to the City of Latrobe Police.

Father John-Mary entered Saint Vincent Seminary in the fall of 1988. He earned a master of divinity degree in May 1992, and was ordained a deacon on July 18, 1992, before the late Bishop Anthony Bosco of Greensburg. He earned a master's degree in systematic theology in May 1993, and was ordained a priest on May 29, 1993.

During his monastic formation and seminary years, Father John-Mary served the monastic community as a sacristan and as a college dormitory prefect and moderator. He served his deacon internship at Saint Benedict the Moor Church in Pittsburgh from 1992-93.

Since his ordination as a priest, Father John-Mary has served as a parochial vicar at Saint Peter Parish in the North Side of Pittsburgh, at Saint Vincent Parish in Latrobe, and at Saint Gregory the Great Parish in Virginia, Beach. Since August 2006, he has served as the Catholic chaplain at Latrobe Area Hospital.



SERVICE TO THE DIOCESE OF ERIE
• Pastor, Queen of the World Parish,
St. Marys, 2004-06

REV. PAUL R. TAYLOR, OSB 25 YEARS

Benedictine Father Paul R. Taylor, a native of St. Marys, is celebrating his 25th anniversary as a Benedictine monk this year.

Since 2012, Father Taylor has been executive vice president of Saint Vincent College in Latrobe.

He attended Sacred Heart School, St. Marys, and is a 1983 graduate of Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys. He received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Saint Vincent College in 1987, a master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 1991, a master's in mathematics from Duke University in 1993, and a doctorate in higher education administration from Boston College in 1998.

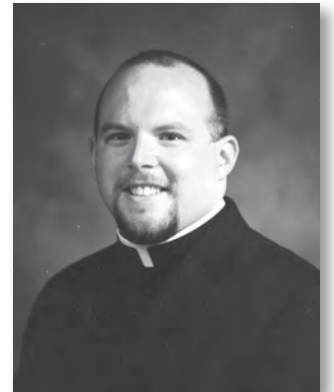
Father Taylor entered the Saint Vincent Benedictine community on July 1, 1987, made simple profession of monastic vows on July 10, 1988, and solemn profession of vows on July 11, 1991. He was ordained a priest June 6, 1992 at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica by the late Bishop Anthony G. Bosco.

While attending Saint Vincent Seminary, he served as assistant to the planning committee of the Saint Vincent College board of directors and as a dormitory prefect and moderator at Saint Vincent College. From 1988-90, he served as manager of the Saint Vincent Gristmill, then subsequently chaired the Gristmill Committee of the archabbey before being named director of the Gristmill in 2001. He also founded the Gristmill Coffeehouse in 2005, and serves as its director.

Father Taylor was associate director of vocations for the Archabbey from 1996 to 2004, and was associate director of admissions and financial aid at Saint Vincent College from 1996-97. He became director of financial aid in 1997 and dean of admissions and financial aid in 2001. In 2003, he was named associate vice president of Institutional Advancement, serving in that position until 2006. He served as vice president of Institutional Advancement from 2006-09, when he was appointed executive director of Archabbey Apostolates and Endowments.

During his service in Institutional Advancement for Saint Vincent College, he has assisted in the successful development campaigns for the Herman and Sis Dupré Science Pavilion, the Fred M. Rogers Center, Headmasters Hall and a variety of scholarship endowment funds at Saint Vincent College. He continues to assist the college administration in fundraising, but has expanded his efforts to include the seminary administration and the other major institutions sponsored by the Benedictines of Saint Vincent Archabbey.

In addition to the college and seminary, as special assistant to the archabbot/chancellor for development, Father Taylor's development activities now include projects such as the Archabbey Health and Welfare Fund, the Benedictine Military High School, the Saint Vincent foundations in Taiwan and Brazil, and the international Benedictine university of Sant' Anselmo in Rome. He will also play a major role in the development of a new master plan for the entire Saint Vincent campus.



A Native Son of St. Marys

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REV. DAVID RENNE CELEBRATES NEW PRIESTLY MINISTRY

It's only been two months since Father David Renne was ordained a priest, so it's no surprise that he hasn't yet officiated at a wedding or baptism. But it probably won't take too much longer considering his first appointment is at Our Lady of Peace Church, one of the largest parishes in the Diocese of Erie.

"A lot of firsts are coming," says the 26-year-old Father Renne, the new parochial vicar at OLP on Erie's upper west side.

An only child and a native of the much smaller Ss. Cosmas & Damian Parish in Punxsutawney, Father Renne is getting acclimated to his larger surroundings. Our Lady of Peace has a membership of 2,500 families and its school enrollment is in the hundreds.

"It's a big shock for sure," Father Renne says, "but it's been absolutely wonderful. The people have gone out of their way to be so hospitable and welcoming. For a new priest, I can't think of a better assignment because there are so many opportunities to see what your strengths and weaknesses are."

He's looking forward to the upcoming school year but has been enjoying the Erie summer while it lasts. His parents, Peter and Jennifer Renne of Punxsutawney, are planning to visit him soon.

"It's always great to see where your kid is living," Father Renne jokes.

Being at Our Lady of Peace is significant to Father Renne because of his lifelong devotion to the Blessed Mother. As a youngster, he attended daily Mass every summer with his grandmother, who lived



PAROCHIAL VICAR
• Our Lady of Peace, Erie

My Inspiration "I start every day by saying the daily rosary. I ask the Blessed Mother to keep me close to her son and that has made all the difference."

near Ss. Cosmas & Damian. They prayed the rosary together and attended the Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima meetings on a regular basis.

"It's so important to have somebody there to guide you," Father Renne says. "I don't know if I would have heard God's call to me without her help."

Father Renne attended Ss. Cosmas & Damian School from kindergarten through eighth grade. That's when he says he first thought of becoming a priest. Experiencing his faith through regular devotion, like participating in May crownings and saying the rosary, were instrumental in his religious formation.

"Devotions are the way you relate to the holy," Father Renne explains.

Father Renne was not able to attend a Catholic high school because the closest one was 45 minutes from his home. He graduated from Punxsutawney Area High School, but says that the experience was instrumental in helping him open his mind to other faiths and beliefs.

"That was an important part of the journey. I got a better understanding of others," Father Renne says.

He enrolled at St. Mark Seminary, Erie, and eventually graduated from Gannon University with a degree in English and a minor in philosophy. He then was assigned to Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe. He graduated in May 2013 with two degrees: a master of divinity and a master of arts in systematic theology.

A few experiences emboldened Father Renne to continue his priestly journey. He attended the Institute of Priestly Formation in Omaha, Neb., a spiritual formation program for seminarians. And during the most difficult days of study at Saint Vincent, Father Renne got a surprise letter from Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman, encouraging him in his work.

Bishop Lawrence Persico ordained Father Renne at St. Peter Cathedral on June 7. Two months later, Father Renne is still getting used to his new vocation.

"There are some times when I sit back and say 'wow' to the fact that people come to you as 'Father,'" Father Renne says. "But they come to the priest of Christ. It's not Father David. That's very beautiful."

To view a personal interview with Father Renne, visit the Diocese of Erie website at <http://www.ErieRCD.org/renne.asp>.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his love endures forever.
1 Chronicles 16:34*



**God bless you,
Father David Renne!**

**We love you,
Mom and Dad**



*Congratulations
to our
Fubilarians*

*Msgr. Joseph K. Bobal
Rev. Paul A. Schill
and newly ordained Rev. David Renne*

*Rev. William A. Rice
Deacon Eugene Miller*

St. Francis of Assisi, Clearfield



Sr. Marcia McDonald, RSM



Sr. Michele Leehan, RSM



Sr. Mary Judith Uzzo, RSM



Sr. Catherine Anne Mesanko, RSM



Msgr. Joseph K. Bobal



Rev. Paul A. Schill



Rev. William M. Laska



Rev. David Renne
Ordained June 7, 2013

We are proud of all our native sons and daughters, and grateful to all who have served in our churches throughout the years and given of their lives and talents for the benefit of God's holy church.

This year we honor all of the above, and in particular we congratulate newly ordained Father David Renne.

May they rejoice in a life of service to Almighty God and His people.

Ss. Cosmas & Damian Church

**Missions: St. Adrian, St. Anthony & St. Joseph
616 W. Mahoning St.
Punxsutawney, PA 15767**





Learn more about the diaconate at <http://www.ErieRCD.org/diaconate.asp>

DEACON ANTHONY ALLERUZZO 10 YEARS

Deacon Anthony “Tony” Alleruzzo, a dentist with West Ridge Family Dental in Fairview Township, has always felt a special connection to the church.

“I was an altar server well into my college years and I served as lector and eucharistic minister,” he says.

After discerning through prayer and discussion with his wife, Mary, Deacon Alleruzzo decided to go through the deacon formation program and see where the road would take him.

So far, the journey has been smooth and enlightening.

“I have been so privileged to serve the people in many ways and I hope to continue to do so for many years to come,” he says.

His experience at the Barber National Institute in Erie deeply touched him. The staff’s dedication and love and their help with his grandson and other children are “glowing examples of God’s love for us through the work of his people,” he says. It was a true guide on his diaconate journey.

The decline in church attendance and the dwindling numbers of people joining the priesthood and religious life are just two problems the church is facing today, Deacon Alleruzzo says.

“The church, as an institution, bears some of the responsibility of bringing people back into the church by recognizing that the faithful need and want leadership,” he explains.

Deacon Alleruzzo says that this leadership cannot be shaped on supremacy, but welcoming, like the parable of the father and the prodigal son. Members of the church need to defend the teachings of Christ.

Deacon Alleruzzo would particularly like to preach on Matthew 22: 26-40.

“Wrapped in these words is a summation of all Christ’s teachings,” he says.

For Deacon Alleruzzo, if Catholics place God at the center of their lives and extend love to neighbors, Catholics would imitate Christ’s love.

“We must be reminded time and time again of the significance of what Jesus is trying to teach us in these few simple verses,” he says.



My Inspiration
“Be still and know that I am God!”—*Psalm 46:11*

CURRENT ASSIGNMENTS

- Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- Saint Mary’s at Asbury Ridge, Erie

DEACON ANDREW FROBERG 10 YEARS

Deacon Andrew Froberg sought the diaconate after asking himself one question: “Who is going to do the work of the church?”

After reflection and prayers, he decided that it was his job. Deacon Froberg no longer asks who needs to do it, but what needs to be done. So he did the work. On May 30, 2003, he was ordained in the permanent diaconate.

In 1987, he moved to Erie from St. Marys, for a teaching job at Triangle Tech. He grew up at Sacred Heart Parish in St. Marys, where he graduated from Elk County Catholic High School.

Many people in his life have touched his heart, but Deacon Froberg narrows it down to three who had the most influence: Msgr. William Biebel, Father Larry Richards and Father Gerald Wright, O.M.V.

“Msgr. Biebel was the first to welcome me to Erie and has been supportive of me all the time,” he says.

Father Richards and Father Wright of St. Joseph/Bread of Life in Erie also inspire him. According to Deacon Froberg, both priests urge people to strive to be saints.

Deacon Froberg encourages Catholics to pray, to study and to be involved in devotions in order to grow spiritually healthy.

“Without spiritual growth, we are spiritually dead,” he says. He compares growing and practicing a healthy faith life to practicing a sport.



My Inspiration
“Stop judging, that you may not be judged. For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you.”—*St. Matthew 7:1-2*

CURRENT ASSIGNMENTS

- St. Joseph/Bread of Life
- Sarah Reed Retirement Center
- Pennsylvania Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Home, Erie

Congratulations and best wishes to all Jubilarians!

We especially pay tribute to the following:

- 65 years - Rev. Daniel C. Wolfel, OSB
- 60 years - Rev. Jeremy Bolha, OSB
- 60 years - Sr. Emilie Rose LeBoeuf, SSJ
- 50 years - Msgr. Joseph K. Bobal
- 50 years - Sr. Laura Vallimont, OSB
- 25 years - Rev. Paul R. Taylor, OSB
- 25 years - Rev. John-Mary Tompkins, OSB
- 10 years - Deacon Andy Froberg

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“Just like athletes who practice all the time in order to be good at their sport, we, as Catholics, need to practice in order to be good in our faith,” he says.

Deacon Froberg teaches mechanical electricity at Triangle Tech in Erie.

DEACON GLENN KUZMA 10 YEARS

Deacon Glenn Kuzma has been surrounded by priests and sisters his entire life. So it's little wonder that he found a path to the diaconate for the Diocese of Erie.

"I began to recognize my call in second grade," he recalls. "Father Stephen Meko came looking for altar boys. I had the look of one, so he picked me. He said there was a mark on us. We are children of God and God puts a mark on our soul [when we commit to the religious life]. Since that day I wanted that mark."

Deacon Kuzma searched for it in the seminary, where he entered twice and believed he failed. In a dream, he was surrounded by priest friends. One of them was a bishop and he put a mark on his soul before he died.

The dream inspired Deacon Kuzma to try again. He was encouraged by his family and many of his friends, but he was afraid to fail again. Filled with the grace of God, he went through the diaconate.

"God surrounded me and I got ordained," he says. "I got the mark!"

A native of Holy Family Parish, Erie, he graduated from Cathedral Preparatory School and Gannon University. He was ordained for the Diocese of Erie on May 30, 2003.

Deacon Kuzma says Catholics should show off their pearly whites. He smiles at his parishioners of St. Luke in Erie when he gives Communion.

"People should learn to smile more and be kind to each other," he says. "The Eucharist is so powerful. I'm introducing them to Jesus, not a piece of bread."

If Deacon Kuzma had one more homily to preach, he would talk on the importance of the Eucharist.

"I don't think people truly understand the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist," he states. "If we did, we'd be in church all the time. I want to help others believe in it more."

He helps himself understand the power of the Eucharist by committing to regular adoration at the Bread of Life chapel in Erie.

In his heart, Deacon Kuzma knew the religious life was for him and he kept chasing that dream. The time he spends with the faithful is most special for him.

"I like being present to the people by listening to them and doing whatever they need," he says.

Deacon Kuzma lives in Erie with his wife, Carol.



My Inspiration
"Never give up on a dream. God always has a surprise."

CURRENT ASSIGNMENTS

- St. Luke, Erie
- Independence Court

DEACON EUGENE MILLER 10 YEARS

The call to the diaconate came to Deacon Eugene Miller during a low point in his faith.

"My faith was becoming boring and my prayer life non-existent," he says. "As my wife and I were driving home after Mass on a Sunday, our pastor at the time had put some information in our bulletin about the diaconate. That was the 'nudge.'"

His faith was re-energized and the diaconate helped him recognize the presence of God in his life. It also affected his marriage positively and he and his wife, Pat, take every opportunity to do ministry together.

A native of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Clearfield, he is inspired by Sister Therese Dush, C.A., founder of the Young People Who Care ministries in Clearfield County.

"She told me early on to spend some time each day and answer the question, 'Where did I see God today?'" he says. "This has really helped me to be aware of God."

His spiritual director, Msgr. Charles Kaza, also has been a guiding light, as has Msgr. Henry Krebs, whose wit makes him a wonderful "companion on the journey."

Deacon Miller believes one of the most vital issues facing the Catholic Church today is teaching an old religion in a modern and fast-paced world.

"It is a big challenge for the church to figure out how to take a 2,000-year-old religion with all the devotions, traditions, rules and regulations and move it forward into the 21st century with technology and social changes," he remarks.

He notes that the contemporary choir at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Clearfield, takes traditional songs and modernizes them. Deacon Miller believes if more parishes offered this approach, young people would be more inspired at Mass.

He also suggests that Catholics get in touch with their "inner being."

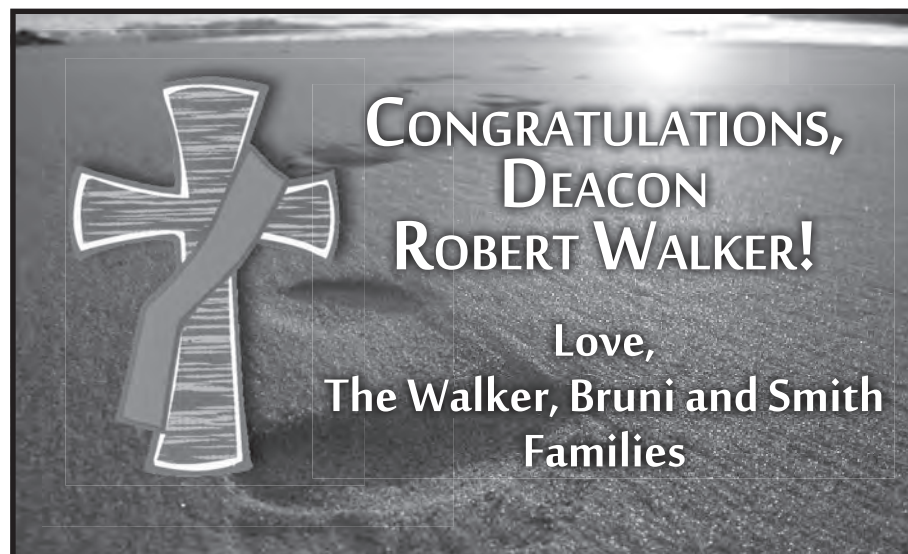
"Everyone's life seems to be filled to the brim with responsibilities and activities that take up our time," he says. "We need to make contact with God and make ourselves aware that God is in contact with us."



My Inspiration "The Gospel readings have really opened up to me. Perhaps because I am permitted to preach and to do this, I must look deeper into the teachings, miracles and parables. This has been my greatest joy to be able to read the Gospel."

CURRENT ASSIGNMENT

- DuBrook LLC, DuBois



DEACON PHILIP SKERDA 10 YEARS

Serving the church as a deacon is never work for Philip Skerda. He loves the ministry and serving God and others.

"I have always had an interest in helping others develop their faith by applying it to their daily lives," he explains.

With prayers and discernment, he felt his calling to the diaconate.

"I consider life to be a series of stepping stones, and the diaconate has been one of the steps," he explains. "The calling didn't develop when I began my diaconate formation. It began from my baptism."

He hails from St. Luke Parish in Youngsville, where he attends Mass. He is married to the Honorable Maureen A. Skerda, who is a judge for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Mercyhurst University, Erie.

Many people have touched his heart with their kindness and faith, and Deacon Skerda feels especially inspired by those who provide hope and healing to people who feel lost, hopeless or abandoned.

"Several persons come to mind," he says. "Father Pete [the late Msgr. James Peterson] had a special gift to those who were incarcerated. Sister Therese Dush, C.A., has a special gift for those in despair. Father Jack Bauer and Father Ray Gramata have a special gift for those suffering from mental illness. The list goes on and on."

His love in serving others in the diaconate ministry continues to grow each day. He calls it "a privilege."

"I love to provide hope and healing," he says. "My job as a deacon is to be able to serve people, whatever need they may have. When I help strengthen someone's faith, that act strengthens my own faith."

"It's an honor to bring hope and healing to someone who needs it," he adds. "When people come to me asking for help, I often ask them, 'What would God's words be?' Sometimes, my ministry just requires listening, and I don't take that lightly. My message is that God loves you, no matter what. He wants to bring you grace and healing from whatever you are dealing with."

If he had one last homily to give, he would boil it down to a simple phrase: "The best is yet to come."

He adds, "As I said before, life is a series of stepping stones. We're never quite finished."



My Inspiration
"The Gospel of John inspires me because it reinforces God's love for me and others. I find it to be the best Gospel to teach others of God's love."

CURRENT ASSIGNMENTS

- Part-time chaplain, Warren State Hospital
- St. Luke, Youngsville
- Rouse Estate, chaplain
- Youngsville Ministerium Food Pantry

DEACON ROBERT WALKER 10 YEARS

The faith journey of Deacon Robert Walker wasn't typical. In fact, he didn't even receive his first Communion until his own daughter did in 1977. Through the guidance of Msgr. Gerald Ritchie, he found his path as a Catholic and as a deacon.

Deacon Walker did not start out as a Catholic. The short version of his journey to Catholicism can be summed up in his amazement and awe at the reverence Catholics held for the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

Over the years he became more active in his parish of Sacred Heart in Erie. In 1984, he became involved with the Right of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) with his sponsor, Father Tom Tyler. When Deacon Walker attended a workshop in Buffalo, Father Tyler invited him to a preaching workshop.

"How would that interest me?" Deacon Walker remembers asking. "I didn't know deacons were even part of the Catholic Church since the diaconate was not yet established in the Diocese of Erie."

He recalls meeting two permanent deacons and asking them many questions about their ministry.

"The bonus was that I got some tips on homilies as well," he says.

Some years later, he mentioned his experience in Buffalo to his wife, Eleanor. The word "deacon" began to creep into their conversations.

"Thankfully, wives are encouraged to attend the classes," he says.

"Eleanor takes better notes than I do and was my coach and support. She still is."

The root of his belief is in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

"Now I have the privilege of being so close at the consecration," Deacon Walker says. "To raise the cup with the presider...all I can say about it is 'wow!'"

Many people have influenced Deacon Walker throughout his life, but the one person he cherishes in his heart is the late Very Rev. David Findlay, who lived out the true message of the Gospel.

"He taught by example what love and compassion are all about," Deacon Walker says.

Since becoming a deacon, he has baptized two grandchildren and other family members, and has presided over weddings. He is grateful for his current position at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception as an assistant deacon and director of facilities.

"It has taught me so much about the diversity, yet similarity, of people of all cultures," he says. "The commonality we hold is our faith."

At Manchester Commons in Erie, Deacon Walker has developed wonderful friendships with the residents and was able to serve some of them in a special way by serving and/or preaching at their funeral Masses.

"God has truly blessed me with a loving wife and family, friends, co-workers, priests and my fellow brother deacons and their wives," he says. "A man at Sacred Heart once said, 'Serving is my way of thanking God for the good things in my life.' I never forgot it."



My Inspiration
"Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself."—*Matthew 6:25-34*

CURRENT ASSIGNMENTS

- St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Erie
- Chaplain, Manchester Commons, Erie

In Celebration of 10 Years

CONGRATULATIONS,
DEACON PHIL
For your dedication and service in Christ

Love from your family,
Mo, Angel & Maxine

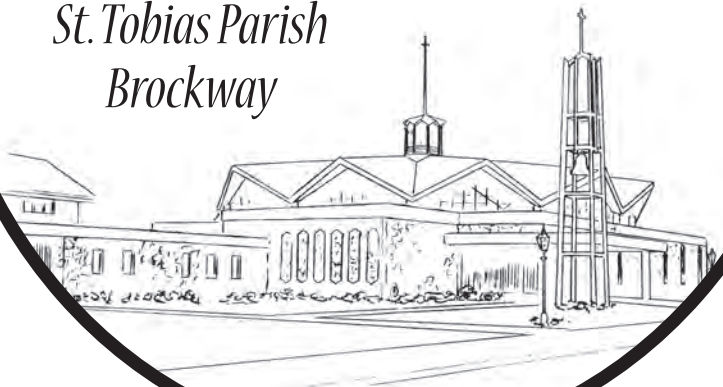
"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4





CONGRATULATIONS
to newly ordained
Father David Renne
and to all our jubilarians!

*St. Tobias Parish
Brockway*

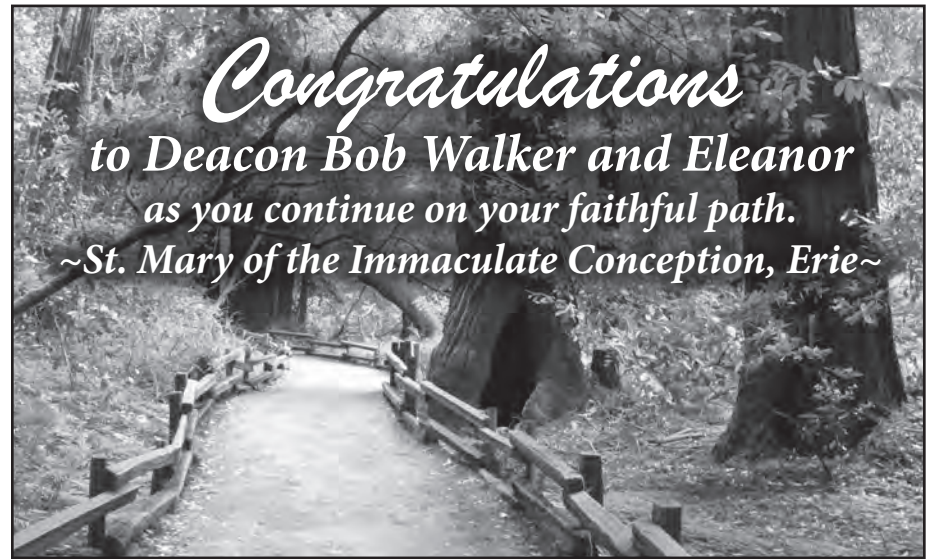


**Congratulations and blessings to
Rev. Alexander Amico on 40 years!**

*From the parishioners of
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Erie*



Congratulations
to Deacon Bob Walker and Eleanor
as you continue on your faithful path.
~St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Erie~



Rev. Msgr. John Swoger
Ordained May 23, 1963
50 years of service

Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Edinboro, and
Edinboro University Newman Association
congratulate and thank
Msgr. John Swoger and Fr. Bill Sutherland
for a total of 80 years of priestly service
to our Lord and the Diocese of Erie

We give thanks to God... remembering your work of faith and
labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus
Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

Rev. William Sutherland
Ordained May 20, 1983
30 years of service





Congratulations on Your Golden Jubilee Sister Mary Drexler, SSJ

The community of Holy Cross Church in Fairview thanks you for fulfilling among us your mission of unity...
...of neighbor with neighbor
...and neighbor with God.

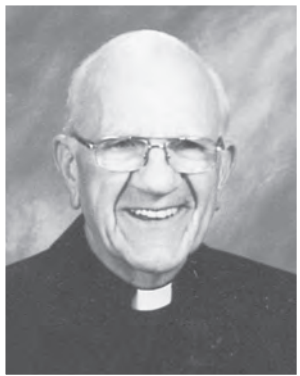
Congratulations!

God's blessings on you for all you have done in His name.

From your family at:
St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois

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

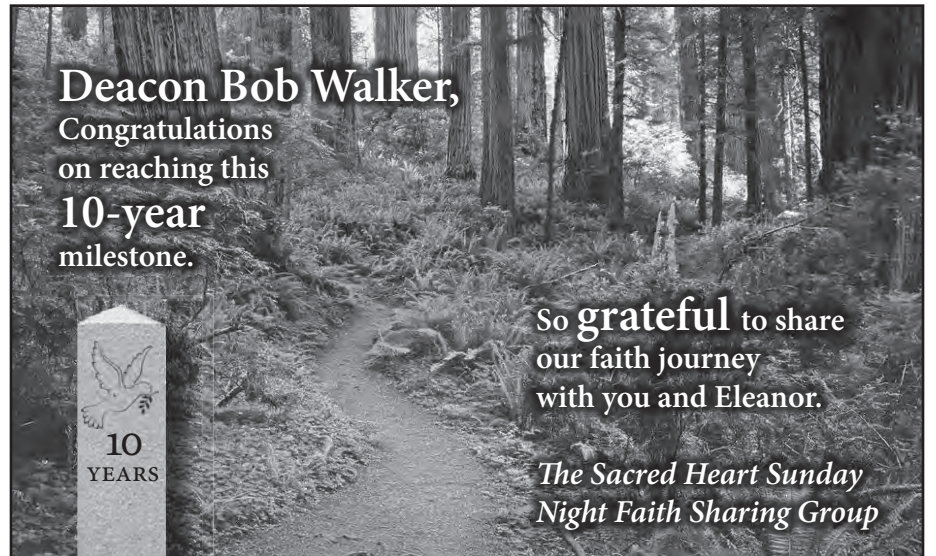
- Sr. Marcia McDonald, RSM, 75 years, native daughter of St. Catherine Parish
- Sr. Mary Judith Uzzo, RSM, 70 years former teacher at St. Catherine Elementary School
- Msgr. Joseph Bobal of Reynoldsville, 50 years



Father Paul Schill,
Ad multos annos!

Thank you
for ministering to the sacramental, spiritual and pastoral needs of our families.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Your friends at St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish
Port Allegany, PA



Deacon Bob Walker,
Congratulations on reaching this **10-year** milestone.

So grateful to share our faith journey with you and Eleanor.

The Sacred Heart Sunday Night Faith Sharing Group

Congratulations & Thank You

St. Paul's Church in Erie and its parishioners congratulate Fr. Alex Amico on achieving his 40th anniversary of priesthood. Continued good health and faithful service to God.

The Carmelite Monastery sends heartfelt prayers and congratulations to Very Rev. Michael Kesicki on his 25th jubilee.

Immaculate Conception in Osceola Mills wishes to congratulate Msgr. Joseph Bobal on his 50th jubilee.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter of Western Pennsylvania congratulates the jubilarians of the Diocese of Erie for their faith-filled and caring service to the people of God. Thank You.

The mission of Worldwide Marriage Encounter is to proclaim the value of Marriage and Holy Orders in the Church and in the world.

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

Sr. Marcia McDonald, RSM

Sr. Michele Leehan, RSM

Sr. Mary Judith Uzzo, RSM

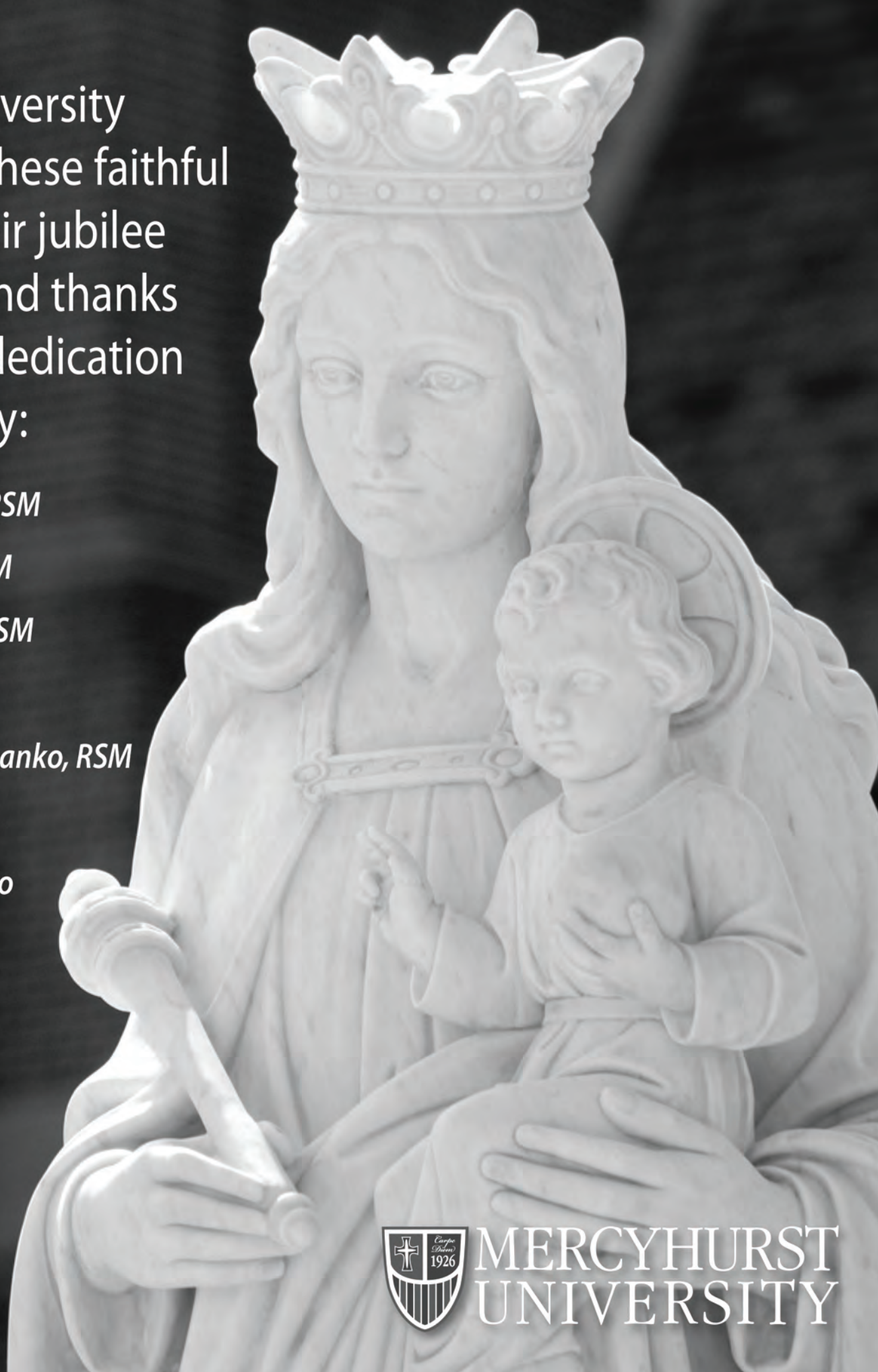
Sr. Phyllis Weaver, OSB

Sr. Catherine Anne Mesanko, RSM

Sr. Rita Panciera, RSM

Rev. Msgr. David Rubino

Deacon Philip Skerda



MERCYHURST
UNIVERSITY

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. REBECCA COSTA, SSJ
Sr. EMILIE ROSE LeBOEUF, SSJ
Sr. MARY IRENE LUNGER, SSJ
Sr. RITA McNULTY, SSJ
Sr. DOROTHY WILWOHL, SSJ
Sr. MILLICENT ZIMMER, SSJ
Sr. MARILYN ZIMMERMAN, SSJ
Sr. MARY DREXLER, SSJ
Sr. SALLY VILLA, SSJ

SAINT
VINCENT



We know how to treat people.®

Congratulations, Father Alex Amico

The faith community of St. Basil the Great honors your priestly ministry. May this special remembrance that highlights the day you started your ministry of service bring you untold blessings.



*Pastor of St. Basil the Great
1984-2006*



St. Basil the Great, Coalport