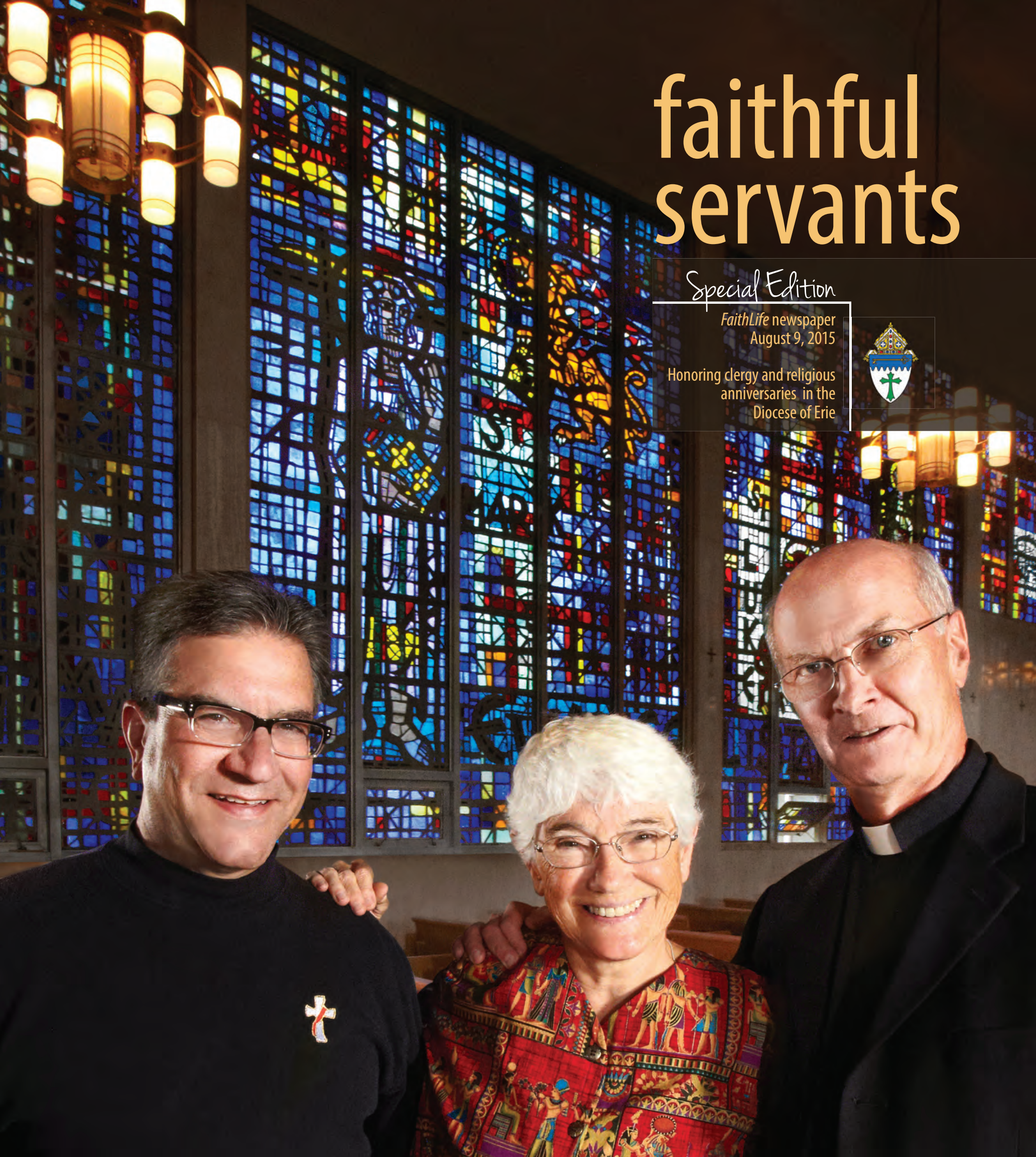


faithful servants

Special Edition

FaithLife newspaper
August 9, 2015

Honoring clergy and religious
anniversaries in the
Diocese of Erie



Look not upon the years,

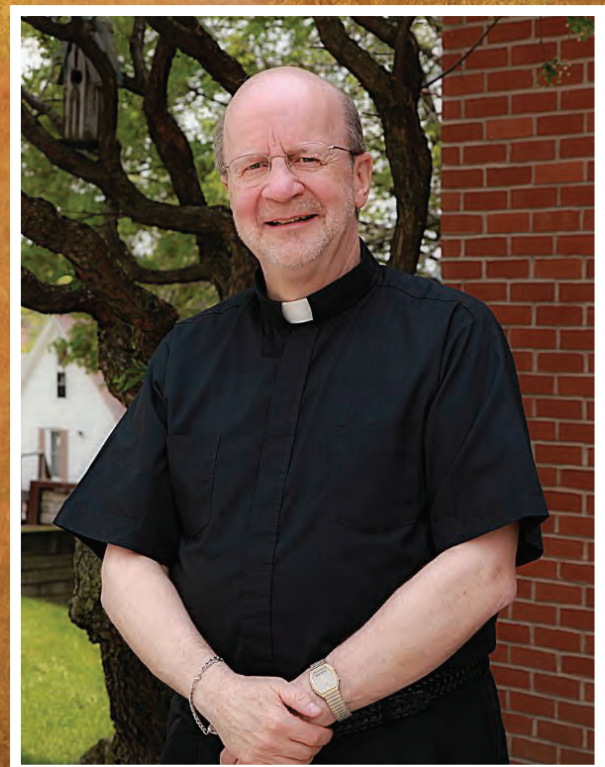
*"Look not upon the years,
but on the fruits, wise man.
Each fruit, each friend,
explains an open lock
where you have been the key.
When you were half your age,
you never would have seen it.
With years, come vision and delight!"*



but on the fruits, wise man.

**Congratulations and blessings
on your 40th anniversary,
Monsignor Richard Siefer!**

**With our gratitude,
St. Catherine of Siena Parish
DuBois**



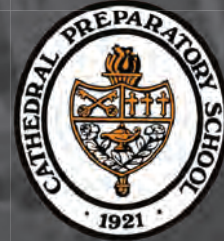
(photo by Dean Erich Photography)

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

Rev. Scott Jabo
Cathedral Preparatory School
and Villa Maria Academy President

Msgr. Ernest J. Daley '47
Rev. Gilio L. Dipre '47 (In Memoriam)
Rev. John F. Bauer '57
Rev. Leo J. Gallina (Faculty)
Very Rev. Joseph C. Gregorek, VF '57
Rev. John E. Santor '56
Rev. Mark A. Nowak (Faculty)
Rev. Glenn R. Whitman '67
Rev. Mark A. Hoffman '77 (Faculty)

Sr. Antonia Domeracki, SSJ (Faculty)
Sr. Rachael McGuire, SSJ (Faculty)
Sr. Leonie Shanley, SSJ '45 (Faculty)
Sr. Mary Ellen Dwyer, SSJ (Administration)
Sr. André Feulner, SSJ '53 (Faculty)
Sr. Bernadine Gehringer, SSJ '55
Sr. Mary Kevin Palazzetti, SSJ (Staff)
Sr. Maria Assumpta Ruz̄a, SSJ '55
Sr. Mary Rose Romeo, SSJ '65



Congratulations to all clergy and women religious celebrating Jubilee years.

Special thanks to the following Jubilarians for their dedication and service to Mercyhurst University, to the Erie Catholic Diocese and to religious life:

Sr. Jean Lavin, OSB, professor of music

Sr. Rita Kartavich, RSM, registered nurse

Sr. Paul Marie Westlake, RSM, education

GET THE EXPERIENCE.

At Mercyhurst University, our Mercy heritage comes alive in the work of our students, teachers and staff, both spiritually and intellectually. We champion faith and reason as we explore new answers to age-old questions, engage each other in thought-provoking discussions and exercise leadership in service toward a just world.



mercyhurst.edu



The Diocese of Erie is grateful to the clergy and religious featured in this publication. Their dedication and ongoing service have been an inspiration to us all. May God continue to bless them.



Faithful Servants is an award-winning publication recognized by the Catholic Press Association in the category of Best Regular Supplement.

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Sister Charlotte Zalot, OSB
The staff of the former *Lake Shore Visitor*
on whose hard work we relied to
report on some of our jubilarians.

On the cover: Photographer Mark Fainstein captures the joy of a priest, a sister and a newly ordained deacon celebrating this year. Pictured at St. Mark Seminary Chapel in Erie are Deacon Nick Cirell, Benedictine Sister Paula Burke, and Father Jim Gutting.

FaithLife

The bi-weekly newspaper of the
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Priests, sisters 'wake up the world'

Jubilee celebrations coincide with the Year of Consecrated Life

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What better time to celebrate an anniversary to the religious life than in 2015? After all, this is the Year of Consecrated Life, as proclaimed by our Holy Father, Pope Francis.

It is an opportunity to recognize the commitment to vowed religious life by millions of men and women around the world—including many from our own diocese—who have answered God's call to serve his people. In the pages of this edition of *Faithful Servants*, we honor 20 priests and 24 sisters who are marking jubilees this year in the Diocese of Erie. Their stories are filled with personal reflections, anecdotes and inspirational quotes that surely will infuse all of us with joy and hope for the future.

This volume also features Father Thomas Trocchio, who was ordained at St. Peter Cathedral on June 5, and our 14 new permanent deacons who were ordained May 29. As bishop, I feel blessed to have taken part in these ordinations. The faith journeys of these newly ordained men inspire me. Certainly, our diocese is in good hands.

In the pages to follow, readers will see how a commitment to a life of service "will wake up the world," as Pope Francis says. Our jubilarians have shown us the face of Jesus

as they work in such fields as education, health care, pastoral ministry and missions. They have stated, in a very public way, "Whatever I am, I am entirely for you."

Many of the priests and sisters who celebrate anniversaries this year say they first recognized their call to religious life when they were young, some as early as second grade. Just like you and me, they are not perfect, nor do they profess to be holy or have all the answers to life's great questions. Rather, they were called by the Lord and chosen in the mystery of God's plan to serve.

Pope Francis, in an address to women religious superiors, said a vocation is "always an initiative of God."

"It is Christ who has called you to follow him in the consecrated life and this means to continually engage in an exodus from yourselves, to center your existence on Christ and on his Gospel, on the will of God, divesting yourselves of your plans, to be able to say with St. Paul, 'It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me,'" the pope said.

By faithfully living out their vows, our jubilarians have offered themselves to the greater glory of God and his people. Think of the countless number of students, parishioners, the sick, the poor and the vulnerable who have been reawakened to God's love through the ministries of these sisters and priests.

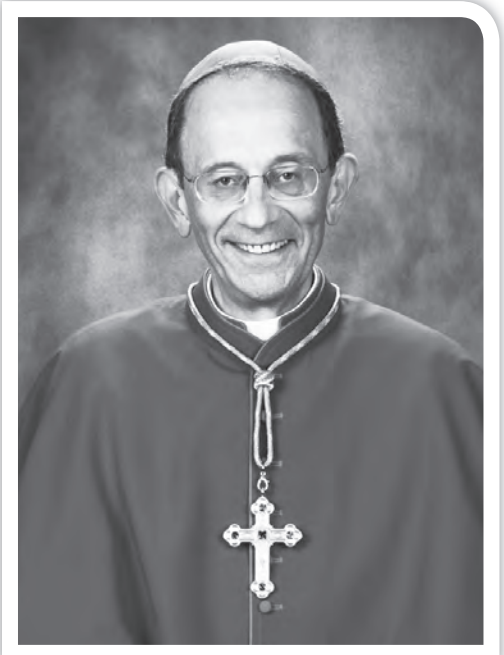
They are where Jesus is. They are authentic disciples in the world today.

On behalf of the people of God in the Diocese of Erie, I congratulate all of those celebrating anniversaries this year.

Sincerely in Christ,

THE MOST REV. LAWRENCE T. PERSICO
BISHOP OF ERIE

This special edition is dedicated to the memory of Father Gilio Dipre, who passed away July 14, 2015, in his 60th year as a priest. His tribute story can be found on page 13.



send best wishes...

**Send congratulatory messages
and cards to the clergy, sisters
and deacons in care of:**

Office of Communications
St. Mark Catholic Center
429 East Grandview Blvd.
Erie, PA 16504

Sisters gather for jubilee Mass



Seventeen sisters representing different orders in the Diocese of Erie gathered June 22 for a special jubilee Mass in the chapel at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie. Bishop Lawrence Persico celebrated the early evening Mass and delivered a homily congratulating the women religious.

“Today we gather in prayer to celebrate and reflect upon the gift of consecrated life in the church. You who have responded to Jesus’ call make your love of God and neighbor visible in the world in a very concrete way,” he told the sisters.

Sister Nancy Fischer, SSJ, director of religious, organized the event, which included a dinner.

“It was a wonderful tribute to these women who have given their lives to the service of the church,” Sister Nancy said.

At left, Bishop Lawrence Persico poses with celebrating jubilarians in the sanctuary at St. Mark Catholic Center Chapel. (PHOTO BY ANNE-MARIE WELSH)

Sr. Antonia Domeracki, SSJ • 75 YEARS

Sister Antonia Domeracki, SSJ, may be 93 years old, but she remembers well the inspiration of Bishop Edward McManaman, for whom she worked as a housekeeper when she was a teenager.

“As I worked with the bishop, he encouraged me to pursue the call to the Sisters of St. Joseph. I knew God was calling me to the religious life,” she says.

The bishop’s advice was sound. Today, Sister Antonia celebrates her 75th anniversary of vowed religious life.

Born in Little Hope, Greenfield Township, Sister Antonia entered the Sisters of St. Joseph when she was just 18 years old. She entered on June 28, 1940, from St. Gregory Parish, North East. She professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1948.

She graduated from Villa Maria Academy in 1949 and earned her bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College in 1961. She received her nurse’s aide certification from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. Gov. Robert Casey of Pennsylvania presented her with an award for her work on the Keep PA Beautiful Initiative.

For more than 40 years, she taught at several schools in the Diocese of Erie: St. Michael, Holy Rosary and St. Paul schools, all in Erie; St. Mary School, Reynoldsville; St. Francis School in Clearfield; and Harborcreek Youth Services in Harborcreek.

For seven years, she worked at St. Joseph Home in Erie, working with kindergarteners. She was a nurse’s aide at Saint Mary’s Home of Erie, from 1983 to 2006, and was a Eucharistic minister at Pleasant Ridge Manor, Erie, from 2006-14.

Today, Sister Antonia spends most of her time in prayer.

“I depend on the Holy Spirit to answer my requests,” she says. “I



my inspiration...

“As morning breaks, I look to you, Oh God, to **be my strength** this day.” —Taken from the Office of Christian Prayer

biography...

MINISTRY OF PRAYER (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania

TEACHER

- St. Michael, Erie
- Holy Rosary, Erie
- St. Paul, Erie
- St. Mary, Reynoldsville
- St. Francis, Clearfield
- Harborcreek Youth Services, Harborcreek
- St. Joseph Home, Erie

NURSE’S AIDE

- Saint Mary’s Home of Erie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

- Pleasant Ridge Manor, Erie

spend much time in our chapel with the Lord, and I pray daily, starting early in the morning. I really believe in the rosary and pray it several times during the day with our Blessed Mother.”

She also prays the Office of Christian Prayer and participates in community activities at the Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center in Erie.

“I thank God for the many ways he has blessed me with the Holy Spirit as I live the rest of my days,” she says.

Sr. Rachael McGuire, SSJ • 75 YEARS

Sister Rachael McGuire, SSJ, remembers her mother reciting this prayer every night:

*Thanks be to God for his love and his mercy.
Thanks be to God for the hearts that love us.
Thanks be to God for the strength in suffering.
Thanks be to God for the joys we've known.
Thanks be to God for the hope he gives us,
of rest eternal beside his throne.*



Essentially, this prayer of thanks passed along the faith to Sister Rachael, who celebrates her 75th jubilee this year.

"Faith is the greatest gift of all. I can picture my father—so kind, so gentle, 6 feet and more—kneeling down with my mother and all of us praying the rosary," Sister Rachael says. "It is the Lord who gives the call and we just act by his grace."

The icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help hangs in the Community Living Center chapel of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Erie. It reminds Sister Rachael of the Redemptorists who enrolled members of her own family in the Mother of Perpetual Help Society.

"We had all of our names inscribed under the picture and I was so proud to read my name there," she adds.

Born 96 years ago this month, Sister Rachael graduated in 1936 from St. Agatha High School in Meadville. In 1940, she earned her bachelor's degree in social studies from Villa Maria College. She later received a second bachelor's degree, this time in English, from Villa, in 1958. She earned a master's degree in English from Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., in 1964, and a master's in French from Assumption College, Worcester, Mass., in 1968.

Sister Rachael entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on Sept. 4, 1940, from St. Agatha Parish, Meadville. She professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1946.

She spent 55 of her 75 years in religious life as a teacher at numerous Catholic schools in the Diocese of Erie. She assisted with clerical work at Saint Vincent Hospital in Erie from 1946-53, and was pastoral minister at St. Julia Parish, Erie, from 1998 to 2008.

For Sister Rachael, devoting time and energy to our spiritual lives is essential.

"I can't imagine living without Mass every day," she says. "I pray, 'Oh Lord, I believe! Help my unbelief!' All walks of life are holy, so I would encourage others no matter what their call to pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus: 'Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place my trust in you. Let me know what I am to do to follow you. Your will be done, not mine!'"

my inspiration...
"Jesus, meek and humble of heart,
make my heart like unto thine."

biography...

PRAYER MINISTRY (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, Erie
- TEACHER** • Holy Rosary
 - St. Ann • St. Andrew
 - St. Patrick • St. Peter
- Villa Maria Academy • Cathedral Prep, all of Erie
 - St. Francis, Clearfield
 - St. Agatha High School, Meadville
- Bradford Central Christian High School, Bradford
- CLERICAL WORK**
 - Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie

THANK YOU

for your service and leadership!

Sr. Jerome Eustace, OSB
Sr. Michelle Wilwohl, OSB
Father Tom Aleksa
Msgr. Dan Magraw

MOUNT CALVARY
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL JUBILARIANS

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

Sr. RACHAEL MCGUIRE, SSJ
Sr. JOSEPHINE DEPETRO, SSJ
Sr. MARY ELLEN DWYER, SSJ
Sr. ANDRÉ FEULNER, SSJ
Sr. MARIA ASSUMPTA RUZA, SSJ
Fr. JACK BAUER
Fr. JOHN SANTOR
(Refugee ministry)
Fr. MARK HOFFMAN
Fr. JIM GUTTING (Pastor)



Holy Rosary, Erie

Sr. MARY KEVIN PALAZZETTI, SSJ
Sr. BERNADINE GEHRINGER, SSJ
(Native of St. John)
Sr. PAUL MARIE WESTLAKE, RSM
Msgr. ERNEST DALEY
Fr. DAN MAGRAW
(Native of St. John)
Sr. NANCY PRENATT, SSJ
(Both parishes!)



St. John the Baptist, Erie

ST. ANDREW CONGRATULATES:
Sr. Rachael McGuire, SSJ
Sr. Mary Joan Beauseigneur, SSJ
Sr. André Feulner, SSJ
Sr. Maria Assumpta Ruza, SSJ
Sr. Mary Rose Romeo, SSJ

**AND THE PRIESTS AND DEACON
WHO ARE A PART OF OUR COMMUNITY
AND THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST:**
Rev. Leo Gallina
Rev. John Santor
Msgr. Daniel Arnold
Deacon Raymond Sobina

Thank you for your loving service at
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 is proud to honor all the jubilarians
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 from the ground up."*



God bless you



Sr. Jerome Eustace, OSB **70** years

Sr. Veronica Mirage, OSB **60** years

Sr. Michelle Wilwhol, OSB **60** years

Rev. Thomas Aleksa **40** years

Rev. James Gutting **40** years

from the parish family of
 Saint Mary of the
 Immaculate Conception, Erie



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

25 years

Rev. Scott Jabo

Weekend Assistant - St. Bernard Church
 Teacher - Bradford Central Christian HS

Rev. Mark Hoffman

Teacher - Bradford Central Christian HS
 Weekend Assistant - St. Bernard Church
 Parochial Vicar - St. Bernard Church

40 years

Rev. Thomas Aleksa

Pastor - St. Bernard Church

Rev. James Gutting

Parochial Vicar - St. Bernard Church

50 years

Rev. Leo Gallina

Pastor - St. Bernard Church
 Home Parish - St. Bernard Church



60 years

Rev. Rocco Tito

Home Parish - St. Bernard Church

Sr. Mary Ellen Dwyer, SSJ

Home Parish - St. Bernard Church

Sr. Angela Marie Servidea, SSJ

Teacher - St. Bernard School

Sr. Mary Joan Beauseigneur, SSJ

Teacher - St. Bernard School

70 years

Sr. Leonie Shanley, SSJ

Teacher - Bradford Central Christian HS

75 years

Sr. Rachael McGuire, SSJ

Teacher - Bradford Central Christian HS



*St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church
 St. Bernard Elementary/Middle School ♦ Bradford Central Christian High School
 Bradford, PA*

Sr. Jerome Eustace, OSB • 70 YEARS

my inspiration...
 "God is with us. **Praise God**
 from whom all blessings flow."
 —Hymn based on Psalm 100



You might say Sister Jerome Eustace was destined for religious life. On her mother's side, there were three relatives who were nuns; on her father's side, two priests.

By the time she reached seventh grade at St. Joseph School in Oil City, she was inspired to consider a vocation, too.

"Another thing, my dad had a rule: Every church activity was to be attended by a family member. It was usually me!" Sister Jerome recalls.

Sister Jerome will be 90 in November and is celebrating her 70th year as a member of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie. She believes in the Benedictine Rule of prayer (*ora*) empowering work (*labora*). She ministered in elementary education throughout the Diocese of Erie for 35 years—as a teacher, principal and basketball coach—after which she moved into health care for 15 years.

She served in the infirmary at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie, and then worked as a nurse's aide at Twinbrook Nursing Home in Erie. She was a receptionist at Benetwood Apartments, Erie, before engaging in contributed services at the monastery. Today, she accompanies sisters to appointments and takes care of

infirmary and guest laundry.

"I will continue to cherish our *ora* and do as much *labora* as my body permits as I march on to the next decade of my life: the 90s!" she says.

A native of St. Joseph Parish, Oil City, she entered the Benedictine Sisters of Erie on Jan. 30, 1944. She made her first monastic profession on Aug. 20, 1945, and her final monastic profession on Aug. 20, 1948. She earned bachelor's degrees in both social science and nurse's aide from Villa Maria College, Erie.

Committing to the monastic life requires a belief that God is always with you, she says, adding: "Trying to live one day at a time is what keeps me going and I have managed to do that, more or less."

biography...

CONTRIBUTED SERVICES, MOUNT ST. BENEDICT MONASTERY (CURRENT) • Appointment driver

• Hospitality/infirmary/laundry

TEACHER • St. Mary, Erie • Sacred Heart, Sharon

• St. Joseph, Oil City • St. Stephen, Oil City

• Immaculate Conception, Clarion • Mount Calvary, Erie

PRINCIPAL • Mount Calvary, Erie

INFIRMARIAN • Mount St. Benedict Monastery

NURSE'S AIDE • Twinbrook Nursing Home, Erie

RECEPTIONIST • Benetwood Apartments, Erie

Sr. Jean Lavin, OSB • 70 YEARS

In her 70th year of monastic life, Benedictine Sister Jean Lavin has left a legacy that far exceeds her appearance on the "Ed Sullivan Show" back in the 1960s.

Over the years, she has shared her musical abilities as a teacher, professor and retreat director. Most notably, she was the choral conductor of "Sisters '66," a group of Benedictine Sisters from Erie who sang on the "Sullivan Show."

"My prayer life, my community and the people I have served through the years have kept me faithful to my vocation," she says.

A native of Sacred Heart Parish, Sharon, Sister Jean realized she had a vocation to religious life after graduating from Sharon High School. She entered the Benedictine Sisters of Erie on Aug. 15, 1943, and made her first monastic profession on Aug. 20, 1945. Her final monastic profession was made Aug. 20, 1948.

Sister Jean, known to many as Sister Agnes Jean, earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music at Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N.Y. She received her doctorate from Boston University and was a Fulbright Scholar.

For 20 years, she was a music instructor at many schools in the Diocese of Erie, and was an administrator at Kennedy Catholic High School in Sharon.

She became a music professor of piano and music theory at Youngstown State University, Ohio. She also worked in many capacities in the business department at Mercyhurst University, Erie, where she held positions as professor and director. In 1990, she began an affiliation with St. Benedict Education Center, Erie, where she was a faculty member in life skills. She served as the director of Stillpoint contemplative prayer retreats at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie.

In her community, she served as a member of the Monastic Council and was the director of sisters in the process of transferring from other religious communities. Over the years, she has found inspiration from Benedictine Father Willigis Jager and Benedictine Sister Ludwiga Fabian.

"I have learned that developing a prayer life is a lifetime endeavor and I intend to continue to do just that as best I can for the rest of my days," she says.



my inspiration...

"Do not fear, I am your God; do not be anxious,
 I am with you." —Based on Isaiah 41:10

biography...

MINISTRY OF PRAYER AND PRESENCE (CURRENT)

• Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie

TEACHER • St. Stephen, Oil City

• St. Benedict Academy, Erie • St. Michael, Fryburg

• Sacred Heart, Sharon

• Kennedy Catholic High School, Sharon

ADMINISTRATOR

• Kennedy Catholic High School, Sharon

PROFESSOR, PIANO/MUSIC THEORY

• Youngstown State University, Ohio

PROFESSOR/DIRECTOR • Mercyhurst University, Erie

PRODUCER/CHORAL CONDUCTOR, "SISTERS '66"

• Musical production televised on Ed Sullivan Show

FACULTY • St. Benedict Education Center, Erie

DIRECTOR • Stillpoint contemplative prayer retreats

BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF ERIE

• Member of Monastic Council

• Monastic formation, scholastic director and

Coenobium director

Sr. Leonie Shanley, SSJ • 70 YEARS

Sister Leonie Shanley's natural smile endears her to everyone she meets. And it's particularly welcome in the field of education for which she has ministered all of the past seven decades of her religious life.

In fact, the Sisters St. Joseph at her high school, Villa Maria Academy, Erie, were so joyful that Leonie answered the call to be a nun.

"The sisters at Villa Maria Academy were a helpful, happy group," Sister Leonie says. "Their example had a great influence on me."

Sister Leonie was born in Pawtucket, R.I., and attended St. Joseph Academy in Schenectady, N.Y. She graduated from Villa Maria Academy, Erie, in 1945, and entered the Sisters of



my inspiration...

"I am the good shepherd. I know mine and mine know me." —John 10:11

St. Joseph on Sept. 2, 1945, from St. Helena Parish in Hobbs, N.M. She professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1951.

In 1957, she earned her bachelor's degree in French from Villa Maria College, Erie. She also earned her master's in French from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland. In the late 1950s, she received certification in speech and drama from Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., and in 1970 studied in the Educational Administration Program at Fairfield University, Fairfield, Conn.

Sister Leonie holds an honorary doctorate from Gannon University, Erie, where she served as vice president from 1989-91. Thriving in all things education, she taught for many years at schools in the Diocese of Erie, including St. Peter Cathedral, Sacred Heart, St. Patrick and Villa Maria Academy, all in Erie; and Bradford Central Christian, Bradford.

In 1991, she became associate superintendent of secondary schools for the Diocese of Erie.

Previously, she taught French and was the dean of students at Villa Maria College from 1968-73. She was appointed interim president of Villa Maria College to facilitate the merger with Gannon University.

She was active with her religious community as well. In 1969, she served on a national team of Sisters of St. Joseph who researched the congregation's history and roots in France. She served her local community as general superior for eight years. In 2010, Sister Leonie and Sister Mary Francis Becker collaborated on a book, *Come to the Waters*, a history of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania.

She is a past president of the U.S. Federation of Sisters of St. Joseph, and served as director of services for the Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center, Erie, where she currently resides.

After 70 years as a vowed woman religious, Sister Leonie still takes delight in every day. What keeps her answering the call to religious life?

She answers, "Knowing that my life continues to be a happy one and my life is worth living."

biography...

PRAYER MINISTRY (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center, Erie

TEACHER

- St. Peter Cathedral, Erie • Sacred Heart, Erie
- St. Patrick, Erie • Villa Maria Academy, Erie
- Bradford Central Christian, Bradford

VILLA MARIA COLLEGE, ERIE

- Faculty • Dean of students
- Interim president

GANNON UNIVERSITY, ERIE • Vice president

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH • General superior

- Director of services, Community Living Center

U.S. FEDERATION OF SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

- Past president

- National team, researching SSJ roots

DIOCESE OF ERIE

- Secretary for evangelization
- Associate superintendent of secondary schools

Congratulations

Sr. Mary Agnes Zore, RSM, former faculty of St. Catherine's

Msgr. Ernest J. Daley, former pastor of St. Catherine's

Sr. Rita Kartavich, RSM, our native daughter

Sr. Paul Marie Westlake, RSM, former faculty of St. Catherine's and

DuBois Central Christian

Rev. John Bauer, past chaplain at Christ the King Manor, and

newly ordained Deacon Paul Bauman

from your friends at

St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois



Congratulations and Thank You!



Msgr. Ernest J. Daley
Sr. Nancy Prenatt, OSB
Rev. John E. Santor
Msgr. Andrew H. Karg
Msgr. Richard R. Siefer '66
Deacon Michael Dittman

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR *lifelong achievement*

Sr. Mary Agnes Zore, RSM • 70 YEARS

For 40 years, Sister Mary Agnes Zore stood in front of a classroom of students at several Catholic elementary schools. She did exactly what she always wanted to do: teach a variety of subjects while molding young minds in the ways of God.

Such is the hallmark of Sister Mary Agnes' life as a Sister of Mercy. She celebrates 70 years with her community this year.

"My favorite ministry was teaching, especially the first and second grades," she says. "This gave me satisfaction, fulfillment and joy."

While a student at St. Mary School, St. Marys, she developed a strong desire to become a sister. The turning point in her life came when she and a friend shared mutual intentions of becoming women religious. In fact, they entered religious life together.

"The greatest influence to enter religious life was the calling from the Lord himself. It was a call that I felt from childhood," Sister Mary Agnes says.

Sister Mary Agnes entered the Sisters of Mercy in Titusville on Sept. 2, 1945, and professed perpetual vows on June 23, 1951.

Having earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education, she taught at several Catholic elementary schools in the dioceses of Erie and Pittsburgh. From 1988-91, she was a parish visitor at Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish, Punxsutawney. Later, she served her community as a driver for the infirmary. Today, she volunteers at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse in Erie and is in prayer ministry.

"As a Sister of Mercy, the most satisfying aspect of religious life is belonging to a community," she says.

For anyone who may be discerning a call to be a sister, Sister Mary Agnes looks to her own experience and says, "Look for help from some qualified person, be patient and trust in the Lord."



my inspiration...

"Come to me all you who are burdened and I will refresh you." —Matthew 11:28

biography...

PRAYER MINISTRY/VOLUNTEER (CURRENT)

- Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse, Erie

TEACHER

- Ss. Cosmas and Damian, Punxsutawney
 - St. Michael, Greenville
 - St. Justin, Pittsburgh
 - St. Patrick, Franklin
 - St. Titus, Titusville

PARISH VISITOR

- Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish, Punxsutawney

COMMUNITY DRIVER

- Sisters of Mercy infirmary

Congratulations and best wishes to all Jubilarians!

We especially pay tribute to the following:

- 70 years - Sr. Mary Agnes Zore, R.S.M.
- 60 years - Sr. Angela Marie Servidea, S.S.J.
- 40 years - Rev. Mark A. Nowak
- 25 years - Rev. Mark A. Hoffman
- 25 years - Rev. Scott W. Jabo
- 25 years - Rev. Alfred S. Patterson, O.S.B.

Thank you for your dedication to our schools and community!
May God bless you for your service!



Elle County Catholic School System

elementary | middle | high



Congratulations and many blessings to all jubilarians!

With Sincere Gratitude to...

- SR. MARY AGNES ZORE, R.S.M. • SR. RITA KARTAVICH, R.S.M.
- SR. PAUL MARIE WESTLAKE, R.S.M. • MSGR. ANDREW H. KARG
- REV. MARK NOWAK • MSGR. JOSEPH J. RICCARDO, V.F.
- MSGR. RICHARD R. SIEFER

From your friends at DuBois Central Catholic!

The Central Difference:

Learn Well. Live Well. Serve Well.



DUBOIS CENTRAL CATHOLIC



The parishioners of Ss. Cosmas and Damian Church in Punxsutawney congratulate **Sr. Mary Agnes Zore, R.S.M.** on her 70th anniversary of faithful service.



Sr. Mary Joan Beauseigneur, SStJ • 60 YEARS

my inspiration...
 “When the evening of this life comes,
 you will be judged on love.”
 —St. John of the Cross

For more than 50 of her 60 years in vowed religious life, Sister Mary Joan Beauseigneur, SStJ, ministered at schools throughout the Diocese of Erie.

Not surprisingly, she was a student herself at St. Bernard School in Bradford when the Sisters of St. Joseph inspired her to consider religious life.

“Three of my classmates who celebrated their jubilees with me in July also helped me with this decision,” she says.

Currently, Sister Mary Joan is an office assistant at the Congregation of the Divine Spirit’s House of Loreto in Canton, Ohio. She previously ministered in education for more than 50 years at several schools in the Diocese of Erie, including: St. Patrick, St. Andrew, Blessed Sacrament, St. Ann, St. Peter Cathedral, and Our Lady’s Christian schools, all in Erie; St. Agatha School in Meadville; St. Leo School in Ridgway; and St. Titus School, Titusville. She served as principal at both St. Leo and St. Titus.

Throughout her 60 years as a vowed woman religious, she has continued to be inspired by those around her. She says her parents, the late Quindon and Dolores Beauseigneur, deeply affected her spiritual life, along with her sisters and a brother; an aunt, Rebecca Krise; and Msgr. Paul Olmsted, Jesuit Father Ted Ross, and Bishop Mark Bartchak of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.



biography...

OFFICE ASSISTANT (CURRENT)

- Congregation of the Divine Spirit, House of Loreto
Canton, Ohio

TEACHER • St. Patrick, Erie

- St. Andrew, Erie • Blessed Sacrament, Erie
- St. Ann, Erie • St. Peter Cathedral, Erie
- Our Lady’s Christian, Erie
- St. Agatha, Meadville
- St. Leo, Ridgway
- St. Titus, Titusville

PRINCIPAL

- St. Leo, Ridgway
- St. Titus, Titusville

Born in Ridgway, she graduated in 1955 from St. Bernard High School, Bradford. She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in August of that year, professing her final vows on Aug. 15, 1960. She earned her bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College in 1964, and a master’s in education from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania in 1974.

According to Sister Mary Joan, “the grace of God” helps her to continue to answer the call to religious life. She encourages others to devote time to their spiritual lives, no matter where they find themselves.

“Love God with your whole heart, strength and mind,” she says. “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Sr. Paula Burke, OSB • 60 YEARS

Sister Paula Burke, OSB, finds peace in chanting the psalms.

Upon her 60th jubilee as a Benedictine Sister of Erie, she reflects today on the value of quiet time to “marinate in the Scriptures and to let the Word of God engage the senses.”

“Because I take the opportunity to do that, I have a heightened sense of the sacredness of all creation,” Sister Paula says. “I care for the earth and all who live upon it and I will continue to do that for as long as I am able.”

The chanting of the Benedictine Sisters who taught her at the former St. Benedict Academy in Erie inspired her to consider religious life. They also were caring, patient and fun, she says.

“I loved listening to the chanting. It was so calm and peaceful. I wanted to be a part of that,” Sister Paula recalls.

A native of Holy Rosary Parish, Erie, Sister Paula entered the Benedictine Sisters of Erie on June 27, 1954. She made her first monastic profession on Dec. 29, 1955, and her final monastic profession on Jan. 3, 1959.

She earned her bachelor’s degree in education from Mercyhurst University, Erie, and spent eight years as an elementary school teacher in the Diocese of Erie. She taught at the following schools: St. Stephen, Oil City; St. Gregory, North East; St. Michael, Fryburg; St. Joseph, Sharon; and St. Joseph, Oil City.

She moved on to other ministries, including housekeeping and work as a dental receptionist. Eventually, she pursued food service and worked as a cafeteria assistant, a baker, and a manager at a number of places, including Mount St. Benedict Monastery, the former St. Benedict Academy and Smuggler’s Wharf restaurant.

She also used her gifts at Glinodo Conference Center in Erie as a member



my inspiration...

“I thank God with all my heart... for your faithful love which is beyond understanding.” —Psalm 138

biography...

BUSINESS OFFICE (CURRENT)

- Benedictine Sisters of Erie,
Mount St. Benedict Monastery

TEACHER • St. Stephen, Oil City

- St. Gregory, North East
- St. Michael, Fryburg
- St. Joseph, Sharon
- St. Joseph, Oil City

CAFETERIA ASSISTANT/BAKER/ FOOD SERVICE MANAGER

- St. Benedict Academy, Erie
- Smuggler’s Wharf, Erie
- Mount St. Benedict Monastery

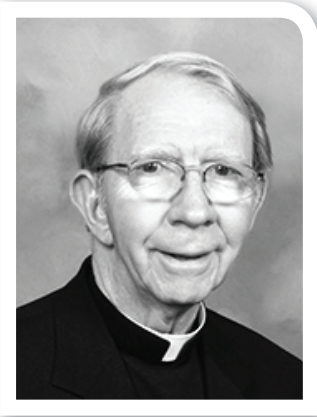
SUMMER CAMP STAFF

- Glinodo Conference Center, Erie

of the summer camp staff. For the last 25 years, she has engaged in a variety of services at the monastery, where she continues to work in the business office.

Rev. Msgr. Ernest J. Daley • 60 YEARS

my inspiration...
 "I hold you in the palm of my hand.
 I will never forget you."
 —Based on Isaiah 49:14-16



Ever the optimist, Msgr. Ernest Daley is celebrating his 60th anniversary as a priest of the Diocese of Erie.

When asked about the future of the Catholic Church in America, he says: "I'm not a pessimist. I believe that the spirit of God lives and dwells in us."

At age 86, Msgr. Daley maintains an abiding faith. Although he believes that the spirit moves in the church, he is concerned about what he calls "a lessening of faith, our Catholic faith and devotion among the youth."

Devotion to the Blessed Mother, in fact, is what has always inspired Msgr. Daley. Even as a youngster, he felt called to the priesthood, inspired by the devotion of his parents and priests from his home parish of St. Patrick in Franklin.

Born in North Tonawanda, N.Y., his family moved to Franklin. He eventually enrolled at St. Mark Seminary, Erie, to attend classes at Cathedral Preparatory School and later Gannon University. He studied philosophy and theology at Christ the King Seminary in New York, and was ordained at St. Peter Cathedral on May 19, 1955.

His first assignment was as parochial vicar of St. John the Baptist Parish, Erie. He served as the parochial vicar at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Clearfield, and Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City. In 1971, he was appointed administrator of Beloved Disciple until being named pastor there in 1974. He remained at Beloved Disciple until 1978, when he was named pastor at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois.

As a young priest, he taught for one year at Venango Catholic High School, Oil City, while in residence at St. Stephen Parish.

From 1982-86, he was episcopal vicar for the Southern Vicariate of the diocese. He was honored by both Bishop Michael Murphy and Pope John Paul II on May 13, 1984, when he was named a prelate of honor with the personal title of monsignor.

In 1986, he was appointed pastor of Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie, where he remained for 13 years. For 10 years—from 1999 to 2009—he was a senior associate at St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie, retiring in June 2009.

Msgr. Daley encourages those he meets to devote time to their spiritual life. People, he says, need a faith community that radiates joy and hope.

"Be a person of prayer, not out of a sense of obligation, but a sense of need on our journey of life," he says.

biography...

PASTOR

- Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie
- St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois
- Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City

EPISCOPAL VICAR

- Southern Vicariate, Diocese of Erie

ADMINISTRATOR

- Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

- St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie

EPISCOPAL DELEGATE FOR RETIRED PRIESTS

- Diocese of Erie

RESIDENT PRIEST

- Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion

- St. Stephen Parish, Oil City

PAROCHIAL VICAR


- Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City

- St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Clearfield

- St. John the Baptist Parish, Erie

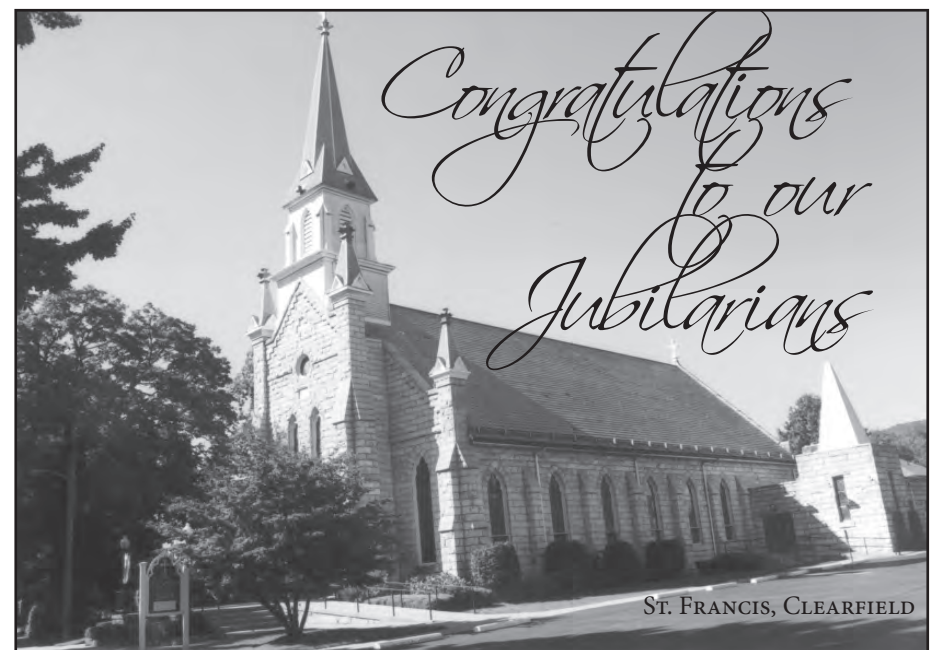
FACULTY

- Venango Catholic High School, Oil City



St. Theresa in Shinglehouse joyfully congratulates
Fr. Leo Gallina
 for his unwavering
 50 years of service.
 Your warm heart and kind
 smile always light up a room.
 Thank you for all you have done
 and continue to do!

God bless you!



ST. FRANCIS, CLEARFIELD

*Congratulations to Robert Wilson
 on his ordination to the permanent diaconate.*

*Congratulations to Sr. Antonia Domeracki, SSJ (75 years);
 Sr. Rachael McGuire, SSJ (75 years); Msgr. Ernest J. Daley
 (60 years); Sr. Josephine DePetro, SSJ (60 years);
 Sr. André Feulner, SSJ (60 years); Rev. Thomas M. Aleksa (40
 years) on their anniversaries in religious life and in appreciation for
 your years of service to St. Francis School.*

Sr. Josephine DePetro, SSJ • 60 YEARS

For Sister Josephine DePetro, SSJ, all things are possible with prayer.

"Each day is a gift from God," says Sister Josephine, who is celebrating her 60th jubilee as a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph. She formerly was known as Sister Mary Anthony.

A native of Degolia, Pa., McKean County, Sister Josephine first recognized her call to religious life in eighth grade. A priest, Father Daniel Lord, suggested that she had a vocation, but she pushed the thought aside. By her senior year at the former St. Bernard High School, Bradford, she started to rethink the idea.

"I always wanted to work with children and the poor," she says. "I always wanted to help others. Our [SSJ] charism, 'connecting neighbor to neighbor and neighbor with God, without distinction,' has kept me answering the call."

After graduating from St. Bernard in 1955, she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph from Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish, Bradford, on Aug. 31, 1955. She professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1961. She earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College, Erie, and her master's in social ministry from St. Mary's University in Winona, Minn.

For more than 20 years, she taught at several Catholic schools in the Diocese of Erie, and served as a McKean County juvenile probation officer for 11 years. She later became the director of religious education at Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion, and at St. Mary's Inter-parish in St. Marys, where she combined three parish religious education programs.

She facilitated many workshops on parenting skills and offered counseling to parents. She also taught CCD methods for the Diocese of Erie. She has been honored for her work in religious education and was recognized with an award from the Women's Club of Bradford.

For Sister Josephine, a few teachers stand out as role models: Sister Fran-



my inspiration...

"Love then consists in this: not that we have loved God, but that **he has loved us and sent his Son** as an offering for our sins." — 1 John 4:10

biography...

IN-HOME COORDINATOR (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center, Erie
- TEACHER** • Blessed Sacrament, Erie
 - St. Joseph, Erie
 - Sacred Heart, Erie
 - Holy Rosary, Erie
- Our Lady's Christian, Erie
- Our Lady of Peace, Erie

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion
- St. Mary's Inter-parish, St. Marys

CCD METHODS TEACHER • Diocese of Erie

JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER, MCKEAN COUNTY

cisca, her third-grade teacher, and Sister Mary Marrieta, a high school teacher.

"In high school, Sister Marrieta taught me to pray the rosary each day and to ask God to show me what he would like me to do and to grow in his daily grace," she says.

It's been 60 years of blessings for Sister Josephine.

(IN MEMORIAM)

Rev. Gilio L. Dipre • 60 YEARS

(IN MEMORIAM)

my inspiration...
"Strive for excellence."

Editor's Note: Father Gilio Dipre, 86, died July 14 at Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge, Erie, just days before this issue of *Faithful Servants* was printed. He encouraged his students at Gannon University to always "strive for excellence." Rest in the perfection of Jesus' love, Father Dipre.

Priesthood. Philosophy. Education.

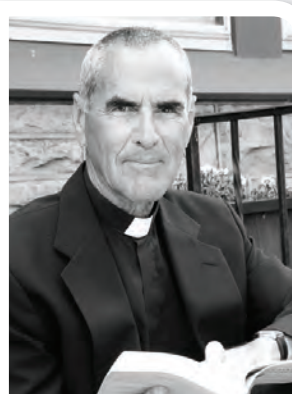
These were three points of light in the life of Father Gilio Dipre.

A philosophy professor at Erie's Gannon University for 43 years, he considered it "a spiritual encounter" when a student wrote an essay expressing the very ideas that he had been trying to teach.

Father Dipre's commitment to students and the study of philosophy were recognized by Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman upon Father Dipre's retirement in October 1998: "Through the years, countless numbers of students have benefited from your teaching, example and priestly presence."

Father Dipre died July 14 at Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge, Erie. He was in his 60th year of priesthood.

A teacher at Gannon from 1955-98, he served that entire time as a weekend assistant at Holy Trinity Parish, Erie. For nearly a decade, he was active in Marriage Encounter, spending many weekends helping husbands and wives improve



biography...

- FACULTY** • Gannon University, Erie
- WEEKEND ASSISTANT** • Holy Trinity Parish, Erie
- CHAPLAIN** • Knights of Columbus
- MINISTRIES** • Marriage Encounter, Diocese of Erie
 - House of Prayer, Erie

their communication skills.

Also, Father Dipre was active in the House of Prayer ministry in Erie, and he was a chaplain to the Knights of Columbus. He spent one month each year at Madonna House, a religious retreat-living center in Ontario, Canada.

Father Dipre belonged to several professional organizations, including the American Catholic Philosophical Association, Tri-State Philosophical Association, and American Association of University Professors, the latter for which he served as chapter president from 1970-73.

Born on Winslow Hill, Elk County, he attended Benezette Grade School and Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie, entering St. Mark Seminary in 1947. While in formation, he attended Gannon until 1949. He received his major seminary formation at Christ the King Seminary of St. Bonaventure University, Olean, N.Y., where he earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy in 1951 and a master's degree in guidance in 1955. He returned to St. Bonaventure for his doctorate in philosophy, with emphasis on Aristotle and logic.

He was ordained at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie on May 19, 1955. Immediately, he began his teaching career at Gannon.

Sr. Mary Ellen Dwyer, SSJ • 60 YEARS

my inspiration...
"As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you. **Live on in
my love.**" —John 15:9



Sister Mary Ellen Dwyer, SSJ, says her call to religious life 60 years ago has been a call to serve those in need.

Throughout her vocation, she has been committed to the nursing profession. Even today, she volunteers at Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie, and accompanies fellow sisters to doctor appointments and surgical procedures.

A native of Bradford, Sister Mary Ellen (formerly Sister Mariella) entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in August 1955. After professing her first vows in 1958, she began her nursing education at Spencer School of Nursing in Meadville.

In 1961, she graduated with her nursing degree. In August of that year, she professed her final vows. She earned her bachelor's degree in nursing from Villa Maria College in 1964, and her master's from the University of Maryland, in 1969.

She was head nurse in pediatrics and clinic coordinator for maternal/child clinics and chemotherapy clinics at Spencer Hospital. She was an instructor of maternal and pediatric nursing at Spencer School of Nursing. From 1973-77, she served as junior team coordinator and assistant professor in the nursing department at Villa Maria College.

In 1989, along with SSJ Associate John Brown, Sister Mary Ellen developed and managed the first Medicare-certified hospice in northwestern Pennsylvania:

biography...

AIDE TO SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH (CURRENT)
MEMBER, SSJ BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CURRENT)
VOLUNTEER • Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie
• Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network
HEAD NURSE/CLINIC COORDINATOR
• Spencer Hospital, Meadville
INSTRUCTOR • Spencer School of Nursing, Meadville
JUNIOR TEAM COORDINATOR/ASST. PROFESSOR
• Villa Maria College, Nursing Department, Erie
MANAGER/DEVELOPER
• Hospice of Crawford County Inc.
LEADERSHIP, SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF NWP
• Treasurer • President

Hospice of Crawford County Inc. In 2003, she was called to leadership for her congregation, serving two terms, first as treasurer and then as president.

She continues to be an active member of the SSJ board of directors.

"Opportunities for ongoing education, both professional and spiritual, have challenged me to grow and have helped me to continually live the gift of my vocation," Sister Mary Ellen says.

She mostly depends on prayer and time away to bolster her spiritual life.

"My yearly retreat is my vacation with God and a non-negotiable one for me since I was introduced to directed retreats based on the Ignatian principles in the 1960s," she says.

Sr. André Feulner, SSJ • 60 YEARS

my inspiration...
"Everything has the power to
lead me to God." —From the
spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola



Not surprisingly, Sister André Feulner, SSJ, admires Pope Francis. As a Jesuit, he embodies everything about the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola that she so loves.

"I have never met Pope Francis, but I would include him as one of those who have touched me strongly," says Sister André, a 60-year jubilarian.

From 1972-74, she was trained in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius at Colombiere Retreat Center in Clarkston, Mich.

Although she taught math at several schools in the Diocese of Erie for nearly 15 years, Sister André has spent most of her religious life in formation, spiritual direction and retreat work.

In 1971, she participated in the first Institute of Religious Formation at St. Louis University. She directed sisters, priests and lay adults in the Erie area, and gave retreats and workshops throughout the U.S. and Canada. She helped develop a camping retreat in the Allegheny National Forest.

As novice director of her congregation for 10 years, she was the first director at the Centre of Spirituality of Erie. She worked for the U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph as coordinator of the Life II Program, and served on the Federation's formation committee. She became a pastoral animator of a parish in the Labrador Diocese in St. Augustine, Quebec, Canada, from 2001-06.

Since 1995, she has directed a basket-weaving program for men and women who meet at the Villa Maria campus in Erie.

She received her bachelor's degree from Villa Maria College in 1961, and she earned her master's in mathematics from the University of Detroit.

Sister André was a founding board member of Ecclesia Center and Avila Retreat Center, both in the diocese, and currently is a board member of Shankar

biography...

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION/RETREAT WORK (CURRENT)
BOARD MEMBER (CURRENT)
• Shankar Service Foundation, Erie
DIRECTOR (CURRENT)
• Basket-weaving program, Villa Maria campus, Erie
TEACHER • Holy Rosary • St. Ann • St. Andrew
• Villa Maria Elementary • Villa Maria Academy, all of Erie
• St. Mary, Reynoldsville
• St. Agatha High School, Meadville
• St. Francis High School, Clearfield
NOVICE DIRECTOR
• Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania
DIRECTOR • Centre of Spirituality of Erie
MEMBER, FORMATION COMMITTEE
• U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph
COORDINATOR
• Life II Program, U.S. Federation of the SSJs
PASTORAL ANIMATOR
• Labrador Diocese, St. Augustine, Quebec, Canada
SUMMER STAFF
• Colombiere Retreat Center, Clarkston, Mich.
FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER • Ecclesia Center, Erie
• Avila Retreat Center, Union City

Service Foundation, Erie, which supports the Shankar Seva Charitable Healthcare Center in Gagaha, India.

"The steady grace of God, and the human and spiritual needs of people everywhere continue to call me to this life," she says. "I would tell people to be aware of the danger of just drifting along."

Sr. Bernadine Gehringer, SSJ • 60 YEARS

Scripture is vital to Sister Bernadine Gehringer's life. Celebrating 60 years as a Sister of St. Joseph, she turns to Psalm 23, knowing she has everything she needs with God at her side.

"I believe that a strong prayer practice is necessary in my life," she says.

A native of Erie, Sister Bernadine knew even as a young girl that she had a calling to religious life. She attended novenas with her mother at St. John the Baptist Church in Erie, and developed a deep respect for the Blessed Mother.

"As part of my morning routine, I must give time to the Liturgy of the Hours and Scripture. The day would be incomplete otherwise, and I'd be lacking necessary ambition to continue with the day's ministry," she says.

Formerly known as Sister Mary Michael, Sister Bernadine currently ministers as a receptionist at Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge, Erie. She taught for more than 30 years at schools in the Diocese of Erie.

She was the principal of Our Lady of Peace from 1982-84, and then served as pastoral minister at Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren; St. Matthew in the Woods, Erie; and Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion.

She graduated from Villa Maria Academy, Erie, in 1961, and earned a bachelor's degree at Villa Maria College, Erie, in 1965. She also earned a degree in library science from Edinboro University.

She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on Aug. 31, 1955, and professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1961.



my inspiration...

"Because the Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need. He lets me rest in the meadow grass and leads me beside the quiet stream. He restores my failing health. **He helps me do what honors him most.**" —*Psalm 23*

biography...

RECEPTIONIST (CURRENT)

- Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge, Erie

TEACHER • St. Ann, Erie

- Villa Maria Elementary, Erie • St. Peter Cathedral, Erie
- Spirit of Christ, Erie • Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- St. Brigid, Meadville
- Notre Dame, Hermitage

PRINCIPAL • Our Lady of Peace, Erie

PASTORAL MINISTER • Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren

- St. Matthew in the Woods Parish, Erie
- Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion

Sr. Rita Kartavich, RSM • 60 YEARS

Rita Kartavich had been talking with her pastor at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois, about her interest in becoming a missionary sister. Msgr. Paul Gooder listened intently to the young woman, encouraging her to look closely at the Sisters of Mercy who taught her at the parish elementary and high schools in DuBois.

"I was influenced by my contacts with the sisters in school," she says. "I did many things for them and with them in school and in church."

With Msgr. Gooder's support, the young Rita Kartavich entered the Sisters of Mercy in Titusville on Feb. 2, 1956, and professed perpetual vows on July 31, 1961.

Much of Sister Rita's 60 years of religious life has centered on nursing, first as a nurse at the former St. Joseph Convent, Titusville. In 1961, she went to DuBois Regional Medical Center as supervisor for the medical/surgical units. Three years later, she served as a nurse at Mercyhurst University, Erie.

In 1968, she returned to DuBois Regional Medical Center to start up the critical care and renal units. In 1975, she fulfilled her original dream of missionary work by assuming a five-year assignment as a clinic nurse and educator at the Comboni Missionaries Health Center, Awasa, Ethiopia, East Africa.

"My favorite ministry was nursing. I loved working with the sick and giving hands-on care, setting up new departments, teaching new methods for hospital personnel, and reaching out to the public," she says.

Sister Rita was the mission educator for the Diocese of Erie, and a nurse at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, Erie, from 1980-82.

She returned to DuBois Regional Medical Center, where she was vice president for 10 years. She also served as director of outreach there until 2010. She served on the hospital's board from 1985 to 2010 and started the free clinic for the working uninsured. She also served on the hospice board.

Sister Rita studied to be a registered nurse at the Saint Vincent Hospital School of Nursing, Erie, and earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Loretta



my inspiration...

"Common sense is the least commonest of all the **virtues.**" —*Catherine McAuley*

biography...

PRAYER MINISTRY (CURRENT)

NURSE/NURSE EDUCATOR

- St. Joseph Convent, Titusville • Mercyhurst University, Erie
- Comboni Missionaries Health Center, Awasa, Ethiopia
- Martin Luther King Jr. Center, Erie

NURSING SUPERVISOR • DuBois Regional Medical Center

MISSION EDUCATOR • Diocese of Erie

VICE PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH

- DuBois Regional Medical Center

BOARD OF DIRECTORS/HOSPICE BOARD

- DuBois Regional Medical Center

SISTERS OF MERCY LEADERSHIP

- Councilor • Co-local leader

Heights College, Denver, Colo.

At the University of Notre Dame, she received a master's degree in hospital administration. She holds certificates in gerontology from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College in Indiana, and in medical ethics from St. Louis University, St. Louis.

Over the years, she served the Sisters of Mercy as a councilor on the leadership team and as co-local leader. Today, Sister Rita is in prayer ministry.

"Being a Sister of Mercy has made me aware of the needs of others and of their closeness to God," she says.

Congratulations, Jubilarians!

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO OUR MISSION OF
"LOVING TO CARE."

Sr. Antonia Domeracki, SSJ - 75 YEARS

Sr. Leonie Shanley, SSJ - 70 YEARS

Sr. Mary Ellen Dwyer, SSJ - 60 YEARS

Sr. Bernadine Gehringer, SSJ - 60 YEARS

Sr. Barbara Ann Vavreck, SSJ - 60 YEARS

Sr. Nancy Prenatt, SSJ - 50 YEARS

Msgr. Ernest J. Daley - 60 YEARS


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



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Family of Schools

The Kennedy Catholic Family of Schools Community offers prayers of thanks and celebration as we mark the faithful service of the priests and nuns whose daily lives exemplified our motto: Christo Servire, To Serve Christ...

Sister Paula Burke, O.S.B., 60 years

Sister Mary Bernadette Ladner, O.S.B., 60 years

Monsignor Andrew Karg, 50 years

Reverend Glenn R. Whitman, 40 years

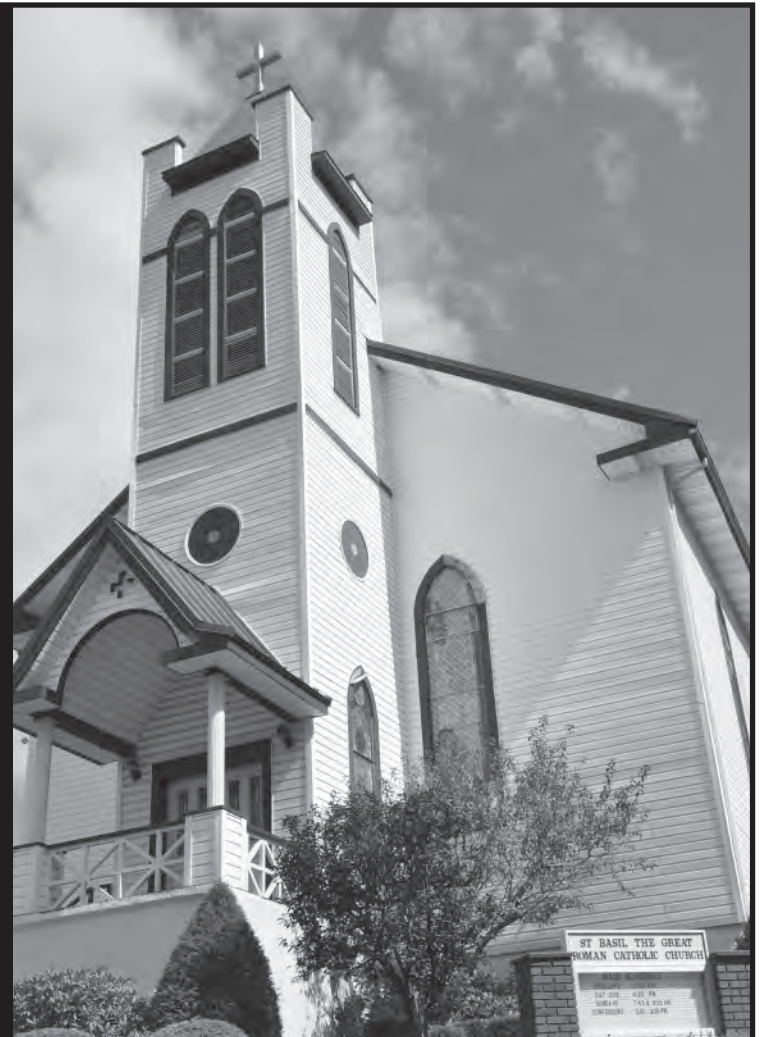
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May God bless you
and keep you, Fr. Jack!

*We thank the Good Lord
for your ministry
in our parish and in the diocese.*

*St. Basil the Great
Coalport*



Sr. Mary Bernadette Ladner, OSB • 60 YEARS

Benedictine Sister Mary Bernadette Ladner converted to Catholicism when she was an adult, but the more she studied the faith, the more she felt called to a deeper commitment.

A native of St. Francis de Sales Parish, Philadelphia, she entered the Benedictine Sisters of Holy Family Priory in Benet Lake, Wis., which later merged with the Benedictine Sisters of Erie.

“The priest who instructed me when I was attending convert classes offered me wonderful direction and guidance,” she recalls.

This year, Sister Mary Bernadette, at age 91, celebrates her 60th anniversary as a Benedictine Sister. She lives by the Rule of Benedict: “Prefer nothing whatsoever to the work of God.”

“I have come to understand how very important it is to always take time for silence and prayer and community,” she says. “My vocation has been strengthened by being in relationship with God and with people of faith. In the days I have left, I will continue to be faithful to these values.”

Sister Mary Bernadette came to Erie when the Benet Lake community merged with the Erie Benedictines. As a Benet Lake sister, she served as prioress, treasurer and formation director. She ministered as a coordinator and director of religious education in many parishes across the United States for 30 years. In the Diocese of Erie, she taught for a brief time at Kennedy Catholic High School in Hermitage.

For the past 20 years, she has worked in the library at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, and continues her ministry of prayer and presence.

She entered the Holy Family Priory on May 10, 1953, and made her first monastic profession on May 7, 1955. She made her final monastic



my inspiration...
 “Indeed, nothing is to be preferred to the
work of God.” —Rule of Benedict 43:3

biography...

LIBRARY AIDE (CURRENT)

- Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie

TEACHER • Kennedy Catholic High School, Hermitage RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR/DIRECTOR

- Holy Family Parish, Tucson, Ariz.
- St. Patrick Parish, Whitewater, Wis.
- Diocese of Grand Rapids, Mich.
- St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Philadelphia
- St. John Parish, Twin Lakes, Wis.
- Prince of Peace Parish, Lake Villa, Ill.

BENEDICTINE SISTERS, HOLY FAMILY PRIORY, BENET LAKE, WIS.

- Prioress • Treasurer • Formation director

profession with the Holy Family Priory on May 7, 1958. She began her transfer from Benet Lake in December 1986, and finalized the transfer process on Dec. 29, 1991.

Sister Mary Bernadette holds a master’s in religious studies from St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Philadelphia.

Sr. Veronica Mirage, OSB • 60 YEARS

my inspiration...
 “I can do all things through
Christ who strengthens me.”
 —Philippians 4:13

Education is the mainstay of Benedictine Sister Veronica Mirage’s life.

Celebrating 60 years as a Benedictine Sister of Erie this year, she continues to actively surround herself with students at All Saints of St. John Vianney School in Wickliffe, Ohio, where she has ministered since 1985.

“As a Benedictine, I am on a constant journey, seeking God through faith-filled living,” she says. “I understand how important it is to devote time and energy to my spiritual life, a spiritual life that guides me in following Christ in all that I do.”

A native of St. Joseph Parish, Sharon, Sister Veronica entered the Benedictine Sisters of Erie on Sept. 8, 1953. She made her first monastic profession on July 8, 1955, and her final monastic profession on July 11, 1958. Her teachers at St. Joseph School in Sharon were Benedictines and inspired her to become a sister.

“I grew to admire their kindness and dedication,” she says. “During these years, the sisters were not permitted to drive, so my family would



biography...

RELIGION TEACHER/LITURGY COORDINATOR (CURRENT)

- All Saints of St. John Vianney School, Wickliffe, Ohio
- ### TEACHER • St. Joseph, Oil City
- St. Mary, Erie
 - St. Gregory, North East
 - Sacred Heart, Sharon

ADMINISTRATOR • Sacred Heart School, Sharon ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

- All Saints of St. John Vianney School, Wickliffe, Ohio

frequently provide transportation. I got to know the sisters and although I went to a public high school, I remained associated with them in many ways.”

She ministered in education all of her religious life, having taught in the following schools in the Diocese of Erie: St. Joseph, Oil City; St. Mary, Erie; St. Gregory, North East; and Sacred Heart, Sharon, where she also served as an administrator. Currently, she teaches religion and is the coordinator of liturgy at All Saints of St. John Vianney. She also served as assistant principal at the Ohio school.

Sister Veronica earned her bachelor’s degree from Marillac College, St. Louis, Mo., and her master’s from the University of Dayton in Ohio.

Sr. Mary Kevin Palazzetti, SSJ • 60 YEARS

my inspiration...
 "The Sister of St. Joseph
 goes as far as she is able."
 —From the SSJ Constitutions



Upon her 60th anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph, Sister Mary Kevin Palazzetti says her call to religious life is as "loud and clear" today as it was six decades ago.

"When I was in high school, I knew I had a special call," she says.

Born in Bradford, she graduated from St. Bernard Grade School in 1951, and from St. Bernard High School in 1955. She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph upon graduation.

Although she taught for several years at elementary schools in the Diocese of Erie, she had a natural talent for cooking, which prompted a career in a private catering service. She also managed the cafeterias at Villa Maria Elementary from 1979-85, and at Villa Maria Academy from 1985 to 2013. Known as "Sister Cookie" for her baking talent, she continues to bake for the Sisters of St. Joseph at its Community Living Center, where she currently resides.

Sister Mary Kevin earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Villa Maria College, Erie, and subsequently taught at the following schools: St. John the Baptist, St. Ann, Blessed Sacrament, St. Patrick and Our Lady of Peace, all in Erie. She also ministered as a housemother at Harborcreek Youth Services, from 1958-60; and at St. Joseph Home for Children, from 1964-69. She served as director of the St. Martin Center from 1974-78.

Sister Mary Kevin is energized by her community's charism to serve "without distinction." In fact, she was inspired most by the joy and faithfulness of Sister Andrea Bennett, SSJ, who was instrumental in beginning the ministry to African Americans in Erie.

Sister Mary Kevin enjoyed teaching and its nurturing role in the lives of youngsters. But prayer is what keeps her grounded in her faith and in her commitment as a religious woman.

"For me, prayer is a constant, recurring conversation with God," she says. "Prayer rejuvenates my life, and a rejuvenated life—one of the many graces of prayer—is a true gift from God."

biography...

BAKER (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, Community Living Center, Erie

CAFETERIA MANAGER

- Villa Maria Elementary
- Villa Maria Academy

PRIVATE CATERING SERVICE

TEACHER • St. John the Baptist

- St. Ann

- Blessed Sacrament

- St. Patrick

- Our Lady of Peace, all of Erie

HOUSEMOTHER

- Harborcreek Youth Services, Erie
- St. Joseph Home for Children, Erie

DIRECTOR

- St. Martin Center, Erie

*Congratulations,
 Sr. Mary Rose Romeo, SSJ
 on your 50th anniversary!*

Thank you for sharing
 your gifts with us for 12
 of those years.

**Our Lady of
 Mercy Church**



Bless you for your service

**Sr. Josephine DePetro, SSJ
 Sr. Mary Kevin Palazzetti, SSJ
 Sr. Mary Rose Romeo, SSJ
 Msgr. Daniel Arnold**

From your parish family at Blessed Sacrament, Erie

Welcome to our parish family



**WHAT A JOYOUS TIME!
 WE LOOK FORWARD TO
 YOUR JOURNEY WITH US!**

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, BROOKVILLE
 AND
 ST. DOMINIC, SIGEL

Congratulations, Deacon Rowan!

Sr. Maria Assumpta Ruza, SSJ • 60 YEARS

Prayer has sustained Sister Maria Assumpta Ruza for the past six decades as a Sister of St. Joseph. A close relationship with God strengthens everyone, she says.

“Develop a strong prayer life,” Sister Maria Assumpta advises. “It will help you persevere in your vocation. It will keep you close to our Lord who will be with you in every joy and sorrow of your life.”

A native of Holy Family Parish, Erie, Sister Maria Assumpta knew in second grade that she wanted to be a sister. The prayerfulness of the Franciscan Sisters who taught at the inner-city parish school always impressed her. By the time she reached her senior year at Villa Maria Academy, Erie, she would seek spiritual direction from the late Msgr. James Peterson.

Shortly after high school graduation in 1955, she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph. She professed her final vows on Aug. 15, 1961.

After entering the Sisters of St. Joseph, Sister Maria Assumpta began a teaching career in Catholic schools of the Diocese of Erie. She also taught religious education at St. Francis Parish, Bradford, and was a supervisor of religious education at several parishes in the Houtzdale area of Clearfield County.

She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1968 from Villa Maria College, Erie.

Sister Maria Assumpta ministered as a nurse's aide at the Sisters of St. Joseph Rosary Hall, and worked as an aide in the Communications Department at Villa Maria College. For 25 years, she was assistant sacristan at the congregation's previous motherhouse in Erie, and at the sisters' Community Living Center.

She volunteered at the Multi-Cultural Health Evaluation Delivery System (MHEDS), a local project that provides health care services to the medically at-risk and indigent patient populations of northwestern Pennsylvania. Through all



my inspiration...

“One thing I ask of the Lord, this I seek: To **dwell in the house of the Lord**, all the days of my life.” —*Psalms 27:4*

biography...

MINISTRY OF PRAYER (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph, Erie
- TEACHER** • Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- St. Agatha, Meadville • St. Leo, Ridgway
- St. Mary, Reynoldsville

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHER

- St. Francis Parish, Bradford

SUPERVISOR, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Parishes in Clearfield County

NURSE'S AIDE

- Sisters of St. Joseph Rosary Hall, Erie
- AIDE** • Communications Department, Villa Maria College, Erie

ASSISTANT SACRISTAN

- Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, Erie
- SSJ Community Living Center, Erie

of her ministries, Sister Maria Assumpta believes she has been supported by the graces received at daily Mass, the homilies of chaplains, the sacrament of reconciliation and yearly retreats.

Sr. Angela Marie Servidea, SSJ • 60 YEARS

my inspiration...
“I have chosen you. You have not chosen me.” —*John 15:16*

For 60 years, Sister Angela Marie Servidea, SSJ, has ministered to children, the elderly and the homebound. It is, she says, a vocation built on faith.

“When I was in first grade at Holy Rosary School [Johnsonburg], and throughout the years there, I had always felt a call to the convent,” Sister Angela Marie says. “When I told my family what I wanted to do after graduation, my mother and father were very supportive of me, and so were my brothers and sisters.”

Born in Johnsonburg, she attended Holy Rosary Parish and its elementary school. She graduated from Johnsonburg High School in 1955, and two months later entered the Sisters of St. Joseph. She professed final vows on Aug. 15, 1961. She earned a bachelor's degree from Villa Maria College in 1969.

Currently, Sister Angela Marie resides in Johnsonburg. She is a part-time activity assistant at Silver Creek Terrace in St. Marys.

Her love of the elderly and homebound prompted her to be a private caregiver in Johnsonburg from 1990-94, and a nurse's aide at St. Joseph Monastery and Community Nurses Inc., both in St. Marys, from 1994 to 2007. From 2007-14, she was a companion to her cousin, who was in a personal care home.

“I have a great love for the elderly and the homebound. I am happy I have the freedom to reach out to them and recall Christ's ministry to his people, to us,” she says.

Previously, she taught for nearly 30 years at several schools, including: St. Ann, Our Lady's Christian, Villa Maria Conservatory, and Maryvale Preschool,



biography...

ACTIVITY ASSISTANT, PART-TIME (CURRENT)

- Silver Creek Terrace, St. Marys, Pa.

TEACHER • St. Ann • Our Lady's Christian

- Maryvale Preschool • Villa Maria Conservatory, all in Erie

- Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg • St. Leo, Ridgway
- St. Bernard, Bradford

DIRECTOR • Horizon House, Union City

DIRECTOR, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren

PASTORAL MINISTER

- Holy Rosary Parish, Johnsonburg

PRIVATE CAREGIVER • Johnsonburg

NURSE'S AIDE • St. Joseph Monastery, St. Marys

- Community Nurses Inc., St. Marys

all in Erie; St. Bernard, Bradford; Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg; and St. Leo, Ridgway.

After her education career, she served as director of Horizon House, Union City, and was director of religious education at Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren. She was the pastoral minister at Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg, from 1988-90.

To Sister Angela Marie, the most important part of every day is spending time with the Lord in prayer.

“If it cannot be done in the morning, just 15 minutes during the day will help uplift your spirits and the Lord gives you the grace you need for the day,” she says. “Just sitting with the Lord in quiet and talking with him helps to focus on the spiritual part of your life.”

Rev. Rocco A. Tito • 60 YEARS

my inspiration...
 "The Lord's Prayer. **Forgive as you have been forgiven.**"



At 88, Father Rocco Tito lives at Wesbury Retirement Community, Meadville, yet he remains active by saying Mass there and offering sacraments to residents.

Celebrating his 60th anniversary to the priesthood, Father Tito is inspired by three things: the Eucharist, care for the sick, and meditation.

"I've always had an interest in caring for the sick. I've always thought it was one of the priorities of a priest," Father Tito says.

Today, despite having difficulties with his sight, Father Tito celebrates Mass once on Wednesdays and twice on Sundays at Wesbury. Every Monday, he makes it a point to anoint the sick and/or offer an apostolic blessing to patients in the hospital sections.

A native of St. Bernard Parish, Bradford, Father Tito was ordained May 19, 1955. He was immediately assigned as parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish, Warren, serving in various capacities in the community. He was chaplain at Warren State Hospital and served as a moderator of the Christian Life Communities and the Warren and McKean Catholic Youth Councils.

In 1965, when he was appointed parochial vicar at St. Brigid Parish, Meadville, he served as chaplain at Allegheny College. He also served as a chaplain at Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie, from 1967-71.

Father Tito served as pastor of two parishes: St. Paul, Erie, from 1971-79, and St. Walburga, Titusville, from 1979 to 2002. While in Titusville, he was presented with the Titusville Area Health Center's Humanitarian Award for having a positive impact on health care services in the Titusville area. Also while in Titusville, he was named diocesan director of the Apostleship of Prayer.

From 2002-10, he was senior associate at St. Brigid Parish, Meadville. He retired in 2010.

Father Tito remembers his first inspiration to be a Catholic priest. Serving in the U.S. Army right after World War II, he and a fellow soldier attended daily Mass. Father Tito began to feel a call to permanently commit to the priesthood.

During that period, he came to understand that it is impossible to share the love of Christ without personal intimacy with Christ. Most Catholics today, he says, would do well to share their faith with others.

What are Father Tito's hopes for the future of the Catholic Church? He says, "Inclusiveness, forgiveness and considerably more charity among its members."

biography...

MASS/SACRAMENTAL MINISTRY (CURRENT)

- Wesbury Retirement Community, Meadville

PASTOR

- St. Paul Parish, Erie
- St. Walburga Parish, Titusville

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Joseph Parish, Warren
- St. Brigid Parish, Meadville

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

- St. Brigid Parish, Meadville

TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Brigid Parish, Meadville

DIOCESAN POSTS

- Director, Apostleship of Prayer
- Moderator, Sodalties (Christian Life Communities)
- Moderator, Warren and McKean Catholic Youth Councils
- PreCana Movement, Warren County
- Liturgical Commission

CHAPLAIN • Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie

- Warren State Hospital, Warren
- Allegheny College, Meadville

You have blossomed into a very faithful servant. Thank you,

Sr. Mary Joan Beauseigneur, SSJ,

for your 60 years of service to the Diocese of Erie.

God bless you!



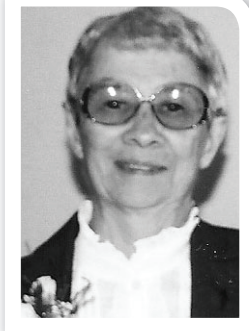
St. Leo Magnus, Ridgway

The parishioners of Ss. Cosmas and Damian Church with missions at St. Adrian, St. Anthony and St. Joseph congratulate Rev. John Bauer and Msgr. Andrew H. Karg on their 50th anniversary of priesthood and service to the church!



Sr. Paul Marie Westlake, RSM • 60 YEARS

my inspiration...
**“What does the Lord require of you...
 to act justly, to love kindness, to walk
 humbly with your God.” —Micah 6:8**



Pauline Westlake was a stewardess for Eastern Airlines in the early 1950s. During that time, she remembers reading a newspaper article about the declining state of education in the United States.

“I wanted to do something about that,” she says.

Pauline decided to enroll at Mercyhurst University, Erie, majoring in education. Her goal was to become a lay teacher, but that changed after she attended a retreat during Easter 1955. She began to consider life as a woman religious, having admired the sisters who taught her at St. Francis DeSales Grade School and Sacred Heart High School in Waterbury, Conn.

She returned to Mercyhurst and met with a priest who thought she had a religious vocation.

She entered the Sisters of Mercy in Titusville, and professed her perpetual vows on July 31, 1961. She took the name Sister Paul Marie.

Her desire to mold young minds was fulfilled when she was assigned to teach at Catholic schools in the dioceses of Erie and Pittsburgh.

She earned a master’s degree in theology from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh. From 1979-83, she was the director of religious education for the Diocese of Arusha, Tanzania, East Africa. Upon returning to the U.S., she served as director of religious education for St. Agatha Parish, Meadville, and as co-director for Hope House, which later became the Mercy Center for Women, Erie.

biography...

VOLUNTEER, PRAYER MINISTRY (CURRENT)

- TEACHER** • St. Walburga, Titusville
 • St. Catherine of Siena and DuBois Central Christian High School, DuBois
 • St. Patrick, Franklin • St. Michael, Greenville
 • Immaculate Conception, Brookville
 • St. Justin, Bishop Canevin High School, and South Catholic High School, Pittsburgh
PRINCIPAL • St. Michael School, Greenville

DIRECTOR, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Diocese of Arusha, Tanzania, East Africa
- St. Agatha Parish, Meadville
- St. John the Baptist Parish, Erie
- St. Mary Parish, Hamilton, N.Y

CO-DIRECTOR • Hope House (Mercy Center for Women), Erie

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE • Holy Family Parish, Metter, Ga.

Later, she was director of religious education for parishes in Erie and in New York. In 1992, she became pastoral associate at Holy Family Parish, Metter, Ga.

In 2005, she suffered a stroke. After extensive rehabilitation, she was able to drive a car and volunteer at the motherhouse. She also pursued a hobby of building dollhouses to be raffled off for charity.

To any woman contemplating religious life, she offers this advice, “Be sure you ask God what he wants you to do.”

Sr. Michelle Wilwohl, OSB • 60 YEARS

Prayer and work have sustained Sister Michelle Wilwohl during her 60 years in vowed religious life.

“I believe in giving time and energy to my spiritual life through reflection on the Scriptures and participation in the sacraments,” Sister Michelle says. “I will continue to do this so that I may be ever and always conscious of the living God.”

For 17 years, she was a teacher in the Diocese of Erie. She became a licensed practical nurse and worked for 14 years at the former Hamot Hospital, at Saint Vincent Hospital, and at the infirmary of Mount St. Benedict Monastery.

Other ministries have included serving on the Glinodo Center administration team, office assistant and volunteer coordinator at the Villa Conference Center, and assistant to the director of employment at the St. Benedict Education Center. She currently works as a kitchen assistant at Mount St. Benedict Monastery.

A native of Holy Rosary Parish, Erie, Sister Michelle was nurtured in her vocation at home. Her experience with the Sisters of St. Joseph at Holy Rosary School also influenced her call to religious life.

Active in sports, she attended St. Benedict Academy, where she first came to know the Benedictine Sisters. She entered the Benedictine Sisters of Erie in 1954. She made her first monastic profession on Dec. 29, 1955, and her final monastic profession on Jan. 3, 1959. From 1983-88, she took a leave with the Carmelites in Erie before returning to the Erie Benedictines.

She earned her bachelor’s degree at Mercyhurst University, Erie.

For Sister Michelle, Jesus is “the most influential person in my life.”

“Jesus has guided me and never let me down,” she says.



my inspiration...

“Uphold me, O God, according to your Word and I shall live; and do not fail me in my hope.” —Psalm 119:116

biography...

KITCHEN ASSISTANT (CURRENT)

- Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie

TEACHER

- St. Gregory, North East
- St. Stephen, Oil City • St. Mary, Erie
- St. Joseph • Sacred Heart, both in Sharon
- St. Joseph • St. Stephen, both in Oil City
- Mount Calvary • Holy Trinity, both in Erie

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE

- Hamot Hospital (UPMC Hamot), Erie
- Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie
- Mount St. Benedict Monastery infirmary, Erie

CAMP ADMINISTRATION TEAM

- Glinodo Center, Erie

OFFICE ASSISTANT/VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

- Villa Conference Center

ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR OF EMPLOYMENT

- St. Benedict Education Center

Sr. Barbara Ann Vavreck, SSJ • 60 YEARS

Sister Barbara Ann Vavreck, SSJ, volunteers today at Erie Dawn, helping homeless women make the transition back to independence. But for the past 60 years as a Sister of St. Joseph, she has worked in many other ministries, strengthening people to be the best they can be.

Born in Philipsburg, Pa., she attended Hawk Run Elementary School and graduated from Morris Township High School in Morrisdale, Pa. She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph shortly after high school graduation in 1955, from her home parish of Ss. Peter and Paul in Hawk Run.

She professed final vows on Aug. 15, 1961.

"I initially made my vocation choice at age 6," Sister Barbara Ann recalls. "I received very strong encouragement from my mother because she always said, 'I brought 12 children into the world. I would like at least to have one as a priest and one as a nun.'"

Her mom got her wish...for the nun. None of Sr. Barbara Ann's brothers became a priest, but a nephew did.

Although she attended public schools, Sister Barbara Ann was acquainted with the sisters who taught religion classes in area parishes. She earned a teaching certificate from the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart and began teaching religious education during her junior and senior years in high school.



my inspiration...

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." —Peter 4:10

For more than 10 years, Sister Barbara Ann taught at schools in the Diocese of Erie, including St. John the Baptist and Our Lady of Peace, both in Erie, and Bradford Central Christian in Bradford. She was a housemother and dental assistant at St. Joseph Home in Erie, from 1959-68.

A career shift came in 1976 when she became food service manager at Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie, a position she held until 1993. From 1993 to 2007, she was purchasing director for Saint Mary's Home of Erie.

Sister Barbara Ann earned a bachelor's degree in home economics from Villa Maria College in 1971, and a master's in home economics from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1975. She also earned a Pennsylvania State Certified Nutritionist Certificate from IUP and Food Protection Certification from the Erie County Department of Health.

Her board memberships have included Saint Vincent Hospital Auxiliary, from 1989-93, and the Association for Healthcare Foodservice (ASHFSA), from 1989-92.

In 2005, she received the Manchester's Who's Who of Professionals award, and, in 1992, was presented the American Society for Hospital Food Service Administrators award.

She was president of ASHFSA from 1988-90, and was second vice president of the Saint Vincent Hospital Pediatric Society from 1988-89.

Considering all of the people whose faith has moved her over the years, Sister Barbara Ann looks especially to her late brother-in-law, Emil, who served as a state policeman for 32 years.

"Even on his death bed, he said to my sister, 'There is no need for you to worry or be upset. I am in God's hands.'"

biography...

VOLUNTEER, ERIE DAWN (CURRENT)

TEACHER • St. John the Baptist, Erie

- Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- Bradford Central Christian, Bradford

HOUSEMOTHER/DENTAL ASSISTANT

- St. Joseph Home, Erie

FOOD SERVICE MANAGER • Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie

PURCHASING DIRECTOR • Saint Mary's Home of Erie

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

- Saint Vincent Hospital Auxiliary
- Association for Healthcare Foodservice (ASHFSA)

PRESIDENT

- Association for Healthcare Foodservice (ASHFSA)

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

- Saint Vincent Hospital Pediatric Society

Congratulations
to the following jubilarians

Very Rev. Joseph Gregorek, V.F.

Sr. Maria Assumpta Ruza, SSJ



Our Mother of Sorrows, Erie



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

PRAYERFULLY ASK GOD'S BLESSING ON

OUR PASTOR

REV. MSGR. DANIEL K. ARNOLD

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD

AND OUR NEWLY ORDAINED

DEACON JAMES MOSS

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



Rev. John F. Bauer • 50 YEARS

my inspiration...
"Bring the Lord's peace and love to those who are brokenhearted."



Father John Bauer spent more than half of his priesthood responding to the needs of people who are deaf and those who have mental health issues.

As chaplain at Warren State Hospital, Warren, from 1975 to 2000, he witnessed the evolution of mental health treatment from primarily institutionalization to community integration and small-group living. It was, for him, his gift and his passion.

"One of the things I can do is really to understand how people are feeling, especially if they can't make decisions for themselves," Father Bauer says. "I was really trying to help people have some sense that they were able to be more alive."

Having earned a master's in special education at New York University, Father Bauer attended the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland, completing a three-year post-graduate program in the Gestalt method. While at Warren, he was in charge of the patients' rights committee and he helped to counsel patients individually and in groups.

Raised since fourth grade in St. Joseph Parish, Erie, he was impressed by his parish priest, Father Joseph Scheffner. Father Bauer entered St. Mark Seminary, Erie, and was ordained May 27, 1965. Immediately after ordination, he was appointed parochial vicar at St. Patrick Parish, Erie, and two years later was appointed director of the Deaf Apostolate of the Diocese of Erie.

He remained with the Deaf Apostolate for several years, and was appointed chaplain at Warren State Hospital in 1975. During all that time, he assisted at Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren, and was administrator at St. Anthony Parish, Sheffield. He was active in the Cursillo movement and in Marriage Encounter.

In the 2000s, he was pastor of Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish, Punxsutawney, and St. Basil the Great Parish, Coalport. He also served as a temporary administrator at these parishes: St. Adrian, Delancey; St. Joseph, Anita; and St. Anthony, Walston.

From 2013-14, he was chaplain at Christ the King Manor, DuBois, retiring in June 2014. Currently living at the Bishop Michael Murphy Priests' Retirement Residence, Erie, Father Bauer encourages others to pray, to find people who will help them on their faith journey, and to listen to God with their whole heart.

In his 50th year of priesthood, he hopes to see the Catholic Church become what he calls "an agent of peace and charity to the world."

biography...

CHAPLAIN

- Warren State Hospital, Warren
- Christ the King Manor, DuBois

DIRECTOR

- Deaf Apostolate, Diocese of Erie

PASTOR

- St. Basil the Great Parish, Coalport
- Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish, Punxsutawney

TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Adrian Parish, Delancey
- St. Joseph Parish, Anita
- St. Anthony Parish, Walston

ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Anthony Parish, Sheffield

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Patrick Parish, Erie
- St. Joseph/Bread of Life Community, Erie
- Holy Rosary Parish, Erie
- St. Luke Parish, Erie



Blessings and Congratulations!

St. Joseph in Warren

wishes to recognize and thank

Rev. Rocco Tito – 60 years of service

Rev. James Gutting – 40 years of service

Msgr. Joseph Riccardo, V.F. – 40 years of service

Rev. Thomas Trocchio – Newly ordained

for your steadfast commitment to the Diocese of Erie!

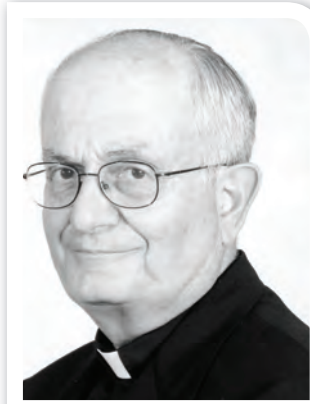


Congratulations to all jubilarians!

From the Staff of Saint Mark Catholic Center

Rev. Leo J. Gallina • 50 YEARS

my inspiration...
"One day at a time."



Father Leo Gallina is faithful to his daily 10-mile walks and taking "one day at a time." As a golden jubilarian, he wants to pass on this moment-to-moment mindfulness to those he meets.

"I feel each day has to be lived as it unfolds," Father Gallina says. "Let things move as they happen and accomplish what you can when presented with it."

Father Gallina believes this advice could even secure the future of the church as a whole. His hope: "That people try each day to live their best possible life in following God and the Commandments and truly love their neighbor."

This summer, the Erie Serra Club recognized Father Gallina with its Outstanding Priest award for his commitment to and love of the priesthood the past 50 years. In accepting the award, he told those gathered that he has always been happy serving others and being present when needed.

"This has been my goal as a priest," he says.

A native of St. Bernard Parish, Bradford, Father Gallina's interest in becoming a priest started in high school at Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie. He was ordained May 27, 1965.

He served as pastor of three parishes: St. Theresa in Shinglehouse, from 1981-87; St. Boniface in Erie, from 1987-99; and St. Bernard, from 1999 to 2011. He also served as parochial vicar at several parishes throughout the diocese. For five years, he taught at Cathedral Prep.

He lives at the Bishop Michael Murphy Priests' Retirement Residence, but he currently serves as sacramental assistant at St. Boniface Parish, Erie. When needed, he celebrates weekend Masses at Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Harbor-creek.

In accordance with his penchant for taking the days as they come, Father Gallina finds joy through Mass each day.

"The daily Mass," he says, "gives me purpose and enables me to carry out whatever I must do for the good of my life with God and those I am privileged to serve daily."

Over the years, Father Gallina's faith has been strengthened and guided by several colleagues and mentors, namely the late Father Martin Grady and Father Frederick Reilly, both from his home parish in Bradford, and his classmates and fellow jubilarians Msgr. Andrew Karg and Father Joseph Gregorek, and the late

biography...

SACRAMENTAL ASSISTANT (CURRENT)

- St. Boniface Parish, Erie

PASTOR

- St. Bernard Parish, Bradford
- St. Boniface Parish, Erie
- St. Theresa Parish, Shinglehouse

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. George Parish, Erie
- Immaculate Conception Parish, Osceola Mills
- St. Tobias Parish, Brockway

CHAPLAIN

- Campus ministry, Pitt Bradford

DIOCESAN POSTS

- Pastoral Advisory Board

FACULTY

- Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie

Msgr. John Lucas.

Father Gallina's homilies are straightforward and focused on gratitude and hope. He encourages others to nurture these qualities.

"Take time to pray, to read Scripture, and to be with other positive people who inspire you," he says.

Congratulations, jubilarians!

Fr. Leo Gallina (50 years)

Sr. Nancy Prenatt, SSJ (50 years)

Fr. Dennis Martin (40 years)

Fr. Glenn Whitman (40 years)

Fr. Scott Jabo (25 years)

Thank you for being constant
guiding lights in our diocese!



Saint George Church, Erie

The Best Window in the World PA8019
is not worth a dime if it's not installed properly!




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Burke & Sons, Inc. is your best source
for quality window and door products
with professional installation and
service second to none.



Congratulations, Msgr. Riccardo!



*Congratulations
and God Bless
Sr. Rita Kartavich, RSM
for 60 years of service*

Her faith, wisdom and enduring example has had a dramatic impact on our health system over the years and we will continue to benefit from the imprint she has made on us for decades to come.

A native of DuBois, Sr. Rita has made more contributions to our community than could ever be accurately listed. Some of the most notable accomplishments include:

- Registered Nurse at DuBois Hospital
- Clinical Supervisor at DuBois Hospital
- Co-Developer of the modern Intensive Care Unit at DuBois Hospital
- Valued Member of the Board of Directors – DuBois Regional Medical Center/Penn Highlands DuBois
- Co-Founder of the Free Medical Clinic of DuBois
- Chairwoman of the Ethics Committee at DuBois Regional Medical Center/Penn Highlands DuBois
- Director of Outreach Ministry at DuBois Regional Medical Center/Penn Highlands DuBois



Sr. Rita Kartavich, RSM



204 Hospital Avenue | DuBois, PA 15801 | www.phhealthcare.org

Fr. Justin P. Pino, the staff and faithful of St. Joseph and Assumption parishes in Oil City honor this year's jubilarians who served our community with great faith and distinction in these past years:

Sr. Jerome Eustace, OSB (70 years)

Sr. Paula Burke, OSB (60 years)

Sr. Veronica Mirage, OSB (60 years)

Sr. Michelle Wilwohl, OSB (60 years)

Msgr. Joseph Riccardo (40 years)

Msgr. Richard Siefer (40 years)

Here I Am, Lord, Send Me!

THEN I HEARD THE VOICE OF THE LORD SAYING,

"WHOM SHALL I SEND? AND WHO WILL GO FOR US?"

AND I SAID, "HERE AM I. SEND ME!" -ISAIAH 6:8

CONGRATULATIONS



Fr. Alfred Patterson, O.S.B.,

Pastor of St. Mary's Church, St. Marys, PA
on your 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.



From your
St. Mary's Parish Family
in St. Marys



Rev. Rocco Tito

*Deacon
Todd Sommers*



Congratulations and best wishes from
Parishioners of Saint Brigid Parish, Meadville,
and Wesbury friends

Congratulations!
Welcome to our parish family!
Saint Brigid Parish, Meadville

Very Rev. Joseph C. Gregorek, V.F. • 50 YEARS

my inspiration...
 "Teach others to behold, to understand, and to **love the created world** so that the admiration of splendors so sublime may cause the knee to bend and invite the minds of men to adoration." —*Pope Pius XII, Address to Pontifical Academy of Science*



of Virginia, he has taught such subjects as pathology, medical ethics, embryology, histology, comparative anatomy, physiology and mammalian anatomy. He was instrumental in establishing the Gannon-Hahnemann Family Practice Medicine Program and the Physician Assistant Program at Gannon.

He often runs into physicians and nurses whom he taught.

"A husband of one doctor told me, 'They still love you and fear you,'" Father Gregorek says.

Father Gregorek began teaching at Gannon immediately after his ordination on May 27, 1965. He later took time away for his own education and to serve on the faculty at the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, where he was a dean of basic sciences for 10 years.

A member of several professional societies in medicine, science and education, Father Gregorek has written innumerable journal articles and books. He was selected to be a member of several medical exchange programs and has lectured in Russia, Thailand and Indonesia. He has been a frequent lecturer in continuing medical education programs for physicians.

In 1977, Father Gregorek won the Darbaker Award from the Pennsylvania Academy of Science, and in 1988 was presented the Richard E. Eby Humanitarian Award by the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California. Throughout his career, he has remained active in parish life, having been a weekend assistant at Holy Family Parish, Erie, and having served at his church of residence in California, St. Paul Parish in Alta Loma. He assisted the Diocese of San Bernardino as a medical-moral theologian and as a member of a task force for victims of AIDS. From 1994 to 2000, he served on the Medical/Moral Advisory Committee for the Diocese of Erie.

A native of St. Luke Parish, Erie, he was most inspired by the faith of his father and mother, who taught him the importance of nurturing a deep love of God.

"We are all too busy, but we need time to savor the goodness of God through prayer," he advises.

Father Joseph Gregorek has spent his entire priestly life teaching the sublime nature of science. In fact, one of his favorite quotes is from Pope Pius XII, in an address to the Pontifical Academy of Science: "Teach others to behold, to understand, and to love the created world..."

Golden jubilarian Father Gregorek has devoted his career to education. He has taught mostly at Gannon University, Erie, but also at the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Pomona, Calif., and at the Penn State College of Medicine.

Officially retired since Dec. 31, 2014, Father Gregorek remains active as an adjunct professor at Gannon and at Penn State, where he has taught family and community medicine since 1995.

Having earned a doctorate in anatomy and pathology from the Medical College

biography...

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR (CURRENT)

- Gannon University, Erie
- Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine
- DIOCESAN POSTS** • Presbyteral Council (current)
 - Dean, Gannon University Deanery (current)
 - Member, Medical/Moral Advisory Committee, Diocese of Erie

FACULTY • Gannon University, Erie

- College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Pomona, Calif.

DEAN OF BASIC SCIENCES • College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Pomona, Calif.

WEEKEND ASSISTANT • Holy Family Parish, Erie

Congratulations

to:

50-year celebrant

Rev. Msgr. Andrew Karg



and newly ordained

Deacon Frank Luciani



May God's love be always in your heart and strengthen you along life's way.

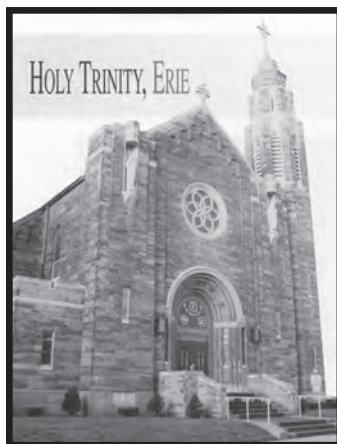
from St. Michael Parish, Greenville



We congratulate all jubilarians, especially

REV. GILIO DIPRE
(IN MEMORIAM)

REV. JOHN SANTOR
REV. THOMAS ALEKSA



Rev. Msgr. Andrew H. Karg • 50 YEARS

Msgr. Andrew Karg describes the first years on his journey to the priesthood as “an extraordinary time,” both personally and in the world as a whole.

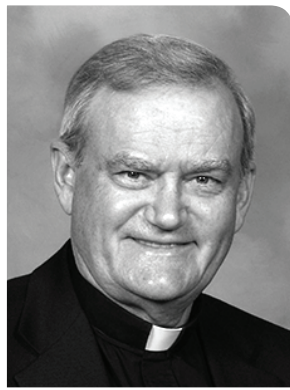
In 1957, he graduated from St. Joseph High School in Oil City and immediately entered St. Mark Seminary in Erie. At that time, young men studying to be priests were encouraged to prepare for eventual faculty positions at the growing number of Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Erie.

Like the rest of his peers, he watched the tumultuous changes in the world brought on by the Cold War, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and Vatican II.

For the young Andy Karg, a native of St. Stephen Parish, Oil City, the opportunities were endless. He earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Christ the King Seminary in New York, and later was sent by the bishop to North American College in Rome for four more years of theology. He was ordained at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome on Dec. 16, 1964.

“My stay in Italy gave me a new sense of assurance and assertiveness,” Msgr. Karg says. “I was ready to teach and eventually to be headmaster of Kennedy Catholic High School.”

From 1965-80, he was affiliated with Kennedy Catholic, serving either as a faculty member, assistant headmaster or headmaster. He was Kennedy’s headmaster for eight of those 15 years.



my inspiration...

“Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love.” —Wisdom 3:9

“The priests, sisters and lay people I met there were the finest in the whole world and I couldn’t even think that it could be any different,” he remembers.

In 1980, leaving Kennedy Catholic, Msgr. Karg was appointed to St. Anthony of Padua Mission in Walston, where he remained until 1985. From 1984-85, he served as dean of the DuBois Deanery and also was named to the Pastoral Advisory Board. In 1985, he was named episcopal vicar of the Western Vicariate.

Msgr. Karg’s background in education was put into action on the diocesan level when he was named vicar for Education in February 1991. He oversaw all Catholic schools in the diocese for the next eight years. In 1999, he returned to parish life as the pastor of St. Michael Parish, Greenville, and its mission of St. Margaret, Jamestown, where he remained for the next 12 years.

Although he is retired, Msgr. Karg serves on the board of trustees at Gannon University, the Priests’ Continuing Education and Formation Committee, and the Diocesan Committee for the Protection and Safety of Children. He has done four-day Metanoia retreats at the State Correctional Institution-Forest, and continues to assist with weekend Masses and confessions throughout the area.

For Msgr. Karg, the priesthood still retains its “extraordinary nature.” The vision of St. John XXIII and the ideas presented by Pope Francis today can transform the church, he says.

“My hopes for the future of the Catholic Church in America,” he adds, “would be that the hierarchical structure may give rise to a democratic input from our educated people, and that Vatican II be felt in the parish and home.”

biography...

MEMBER (CURRENT)

- Board of Trustees, Gannon University
- Clergy Continuing Education and Formation Committee
- Diocesan Committee for the Protection and Safety of Children

DIOCESAN BOARDS • Pastoral Advisory Board

- Presbyteral Council
- Priests’ Personnel Board

VICAR FOR EDUCATION • Diocese of Erie

FACULTY/ASSISTANT HEADMASTER/HEADMASTER

- Kennedy Catholic High School

DEAN • DuBois Deanery

EPISCOPAL VICAR • Western Vicariate

PASTOR • St. Margaret Mission, Jamestown

- St. Michael Parish, Greenville

- St. Anthony of Padua Mission, Walston

TEMPORARY PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

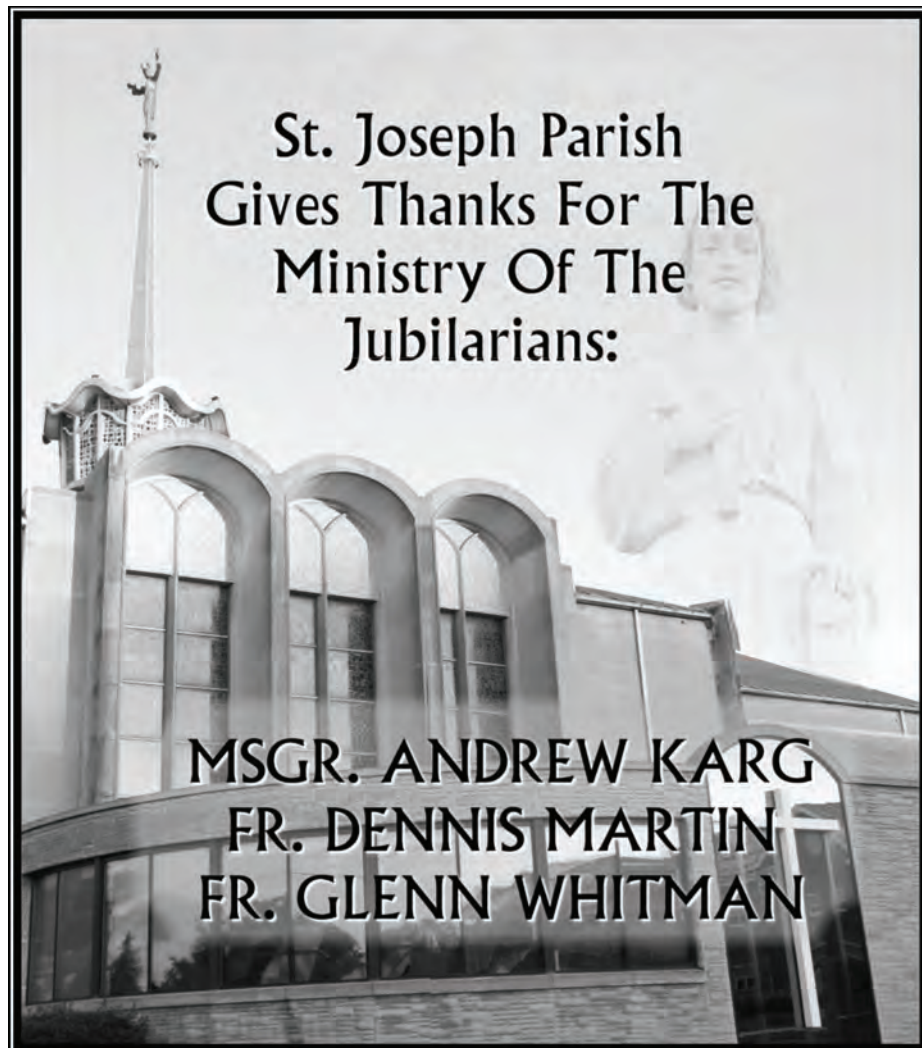
- St. Joseph Parish, Sharon

WEEKEND ASSISTANT • St. Bartholomew Parish, Sharpsville

- Notre Dame Parish, Hermitage • St. Joseph Parish, Sharon
- Church of the Good Shepherd, West Middlesex
- Sacred Heart Parish, Sharon • Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie

RESIDENT PRIEST

- Sacred Heart Parish, Sharon



Sr. Nancy Prenatt, SSJ • 50 YEARS

my inspiration...
 "There are **different kinds of gifts** but the same Spirit..."
 —1 Corinthians 12:4-6



A father's love is everlasting. Sister Nancy Prenatt, SSJ, formerly Sister Ann Charles, learned this truth through prayer and from her own father, the late Charles Prenatt.

"I have very fond and lasting memories of my father, who showed me in very tangible ways his faith and love of God by the ways he treated others with generosity, acceptance and respect," Sister Nancy recalls.

Born in Oil City, Sister Nancy first felt a call to religious life as a senior in high school. She resisted the idea until she became aware of the deep love of God shown by the Sisters of St. Joseph at Our Lady of Victory Infant Homes near Buffalo, where she received her certificate as a child care technician.

She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on Nov. 20, 1965, from her home parish of St. Venantius in Rouseville. She professed her final vows on Sept. 2, 1972.

For more than 25 years, she taught at several schools in the Diocese of Erie and in Johnsonburg. Her great love for children, however, came to the forefront when she founded Wellspring of Life Ministry, for which she served as a foster mother to medically fragile children from 1992-99. She was active in clown and mime ministry, having been known as "Jingles."

She was part of the Sisters of St. Joseph leadership, serving as secretary. For more than 15 years, she was involved with her congregation's formation

biography...

PASTORAL CARE (CURRENT)

• Saint Mary's Home of Erie

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

- Member, Global Awareness Committee (current)
- Leadership, secretary • Formation ministry

FOUNDER, FOSTER MOTHER

• Wellspring of Life Ministry, Erie

TEACHER

- St. George, Erie • Holy Rosary, Erie
- St. John the Baptist, Erie • Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- St. Peter Cathedral, Erie
- St. Leo, Ridgway • Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg

CLOWN MINISTRY

ministry. Currently, she is a member of the SSJ Global Awareness Committee and ministers in pastoral care at Saint Mary's Home of Erie.

She earned her bachelor's degree from Villa Maria College, Erie. In 1982, she graduated from the State University of New York with a master's in elementary education and early childhood education.

In June 1998, the Serra Club of Erie presented Sister Nancy with the Outstanding Religious Award.

Celebrating her 50th anniversary this year, she reflects on the importance of devoting time and energy to our spiritual lives.

"I believe our spiritual life is what truly sustains us," she says.

Sr. Mary Rose Romeo, SSJ • 50 YEARS

Teaching and music have been the primary focus of Sister Mary Rose Romeo's religious life the past 50 years.

As a young student at Villa Maria Academy in Erie, she knew she wanted to serve the people of God through music and teaching. The Sisters of St. Joseph provided the formation and opportunity to do just that.

"I truly believe that every day has been filled with countless blessings and opportunities. Returning those gifts back to God—the giver of all gifts—is the only response I can make," Sister Mary Rose says.

Sister Mary Rose taught science and English for 20 years at schools in the Diocese of Erie and in Johnsonburg. She also served as director of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science Region 10.

Besides her work in education, she served as coordinator of liturgy and music in parishes in the diocese. She mentored liturgical musicians and cantors.

"I think you gain wisdom and insight from each and every person you encounter and from each and every situation of life," Sister Mary Rose says.

Currently, Sister Mary Rose serves the prayer and worship needs of her religious community through music, liturgical planning and creative writing. She provides music programs to nursing homes and retirement centers throughout the area.

A 1965 graduate of Villa Maria Academy, she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on Sept. 8, 1965. She professed her final vows on Aug. 26, 1973.

In 1975, she received her bachelor's degree from Villa Maria College, and in 1981 earned a master's in biology from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

Reflecting on the importance of nurturing a healthy spiritual life, Sister



my inspiration...
 "What return can I make to God for **all the blessings** shown to me?" —Psalm 116:12

biography...

PRAYER/WORSHIP (CURRENT)

- Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania

MUSIC PROGRAM VOLUNTEER (CURRENT)

• Local nursing homes, retirement centers

TEACHER

- Our Lady of Peace, Erie • St. Andrew, Erie
- St. Peter, Erie • Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg

DIRECTOR

- Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science, Region 10

COORDINATOR OF LITURGY/MUSIC

- St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie
- Blessed Sacrament Parish, Erie
- Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Harborcreek

Mary Rose, upon her 50th jubilee, believes that God's grace is only received and recognized by maintaining a faithful and faith-filled relationship with God.

"The gifts and graces of prayer have been beyond my imagination," she says.

Rev. John E. Santor • 50 YEARS

my inspiration...
“Observe everything. Overlook a lot. Correct a little.” — *St. John XXIII*
“Every human face is a very special door to paradise.” — *Leon Bloy*



Father John Santor considers Matthew 25:31-46 (Judgment of the Nations) among his most favorite teachings.

“This passage emphasizes that true love of God requires practical works of mercy done to Jesus ‘in disguise’ as the hungry, the poor, the stranger, the prisoners, the sick and all those who are in the periphery of society,” Father Santor says.

Given this Gospel message, it’s no wonder that for nine years (2001-10) Father Santor served as the official diocesan coordinator of Pastoral Outreach to Refugees. Even today, retired and celebrating his golden jubilee as a priest of the Diocese of Erie, he continues to be a companion to refugees who find themselves in the Erie area.

His hope is that the Catholic Church evangelizes newcomers to our shores and to our parishes.

“With respect for the religious convictions of newly arrived refugees, those who are interested in the Catholic faith need to be offered access to the fullness of the truth,” Father Santor adds, asking, “Who will welcome them and evangelize them?”

A native of St. Hedwig Parish, Erie, Father Santor was ordained on May 27, 1965. He was assigned to the faculty of Venango Catholic High School, Oil City, where he also served as a weekend assistant at St. Stephen Parish. He also taught at Cathedral Preparatory School and Mercyhurst Preparatory School, both in Erie, and served in campus ministry at Penn State Behrend.

He served many Erie parishes as a weekend assistant and a resident priest, but was pastor at three: St. Paul Parish, from 1979-92; Holy Trinity, from 1992-94; and St. Joseph/Bread of Life, from 2000-02.

Over the years, he also has been committed to spreading God’s word as a chaplain to the Sisters of the Divine Spirit, Twinbrook Nursing Home, Erie’s Pleasant Ridge Manor, East, and Gannondale.

Father Santor credits many people for nurturing his faith and his vocation: his family, especially his parents Edward and Sabina; his teachers, including the Felician Sisters from St. Hedwig, the Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of St. Joseph and Benedictine Sisters; fellow priests; and even his “Catholic heroes:” Mother Teresa of Calcutta, St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, St. John XXIII, St. John Paul II, Father Jerzy Popieluszko and Father Walter Cizek, SSJ.

The church, he says, faces many important issues today. The new evangelization must be “more vigorously embraced by all,” he explains, and there should be increased efforts in the areas of ecumenism and LGBT outreach. The plight of Christians persecuted for their faith is another vital concern.

To nurture a personal spiritual life, Father Santor recommends communicating greater truths, especially in the era of social media.

“Wake up to the beauty that surrounds us, especially in the stranger, who is Jesus in disguise,” he says.

biography...

- COMPANION TO REFUGEES (CURRENT)**
- SACRAMENTAL ASSOCIATE** • St. Patrick Parish, Erie
- CHAPLAIN** • Pleasant Ridge Manor, East, Erie
 - Gannondale, Erie
 - Sisters of the Divine Spirit
 - Twinbrook Nursing Home
- DIOCESAN COORDINATOR**
 - Pastoral Outreach to Refugees
- PASTOR** • St. Joseph/Bread of Life Community, Erie
 - Holy Trinity Parish, Erie • St. Paul Parish, Erie
- WEEKEND ASSISTANT** • St. Andrew Parish, Erie
 - St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Lawrence Park
- St. Paul Parish, Erie • St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie
 - St. Stephen Parish, Oil City
- ADMINISTRATOR** • St. Stephen Parish, Erie
- CAMPUS MINISTRY** • Penn State Behrend, Erie
- FACULTY** • Venango Catholic High School, Oil City
 - Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie
 - Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie
- RESIDENT PRIEST** • St. John the Baptist Parish, Erie
 - St. Casimir Parish, Erie • St. Patrick Parish, Erie

Congratulations and God’s blessings
 on our former pastor,
Msgr. Joseph Riccardo
 on the anniversary of his
40 years
 in service to the Lord.

Msgr. Robert Malene and parishioners
 of Church of the Good Shepherd, West Middlesex





**Saint Vincent
Hospital**

*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,
The Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania*

Congratulations

- Rev. Dennis Martin, Chaplain (40 years)
- Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Chaplain (40 years)
- Sr. Michelle Wilwohl, OSB (60 years)
- Sr. Barbara Ann Vavreck, SSJ (60 years)
- Rev. Rocco Tito, Chaplain (60 years)
- Sr. Rita Kartavich, RSM (60 years)
- Sr. Rachael McGuire, SSJ (75 years)



Congratulations and many blessings to our jubilarians!



MERCYHURST Preparatory School

A Sponsored Ministry of the Sisters of Mercy

CELEBRATING

25

APRIL 27, 1990... YEARS ... APRIL 27, 2015

*The parishioners of the Corry Catholic Community
would like to wish Father Mark A. Hoffman*

Blessings on your 25th anniversary of ordination

*We honor you for being a dedicated and
loving shepherd of God's flock.*

*Thank you for your devotion and loving
service to the church.*

*May the Lord bless you and give you
peace and joy in your priesthood for many
more years to come. —Congratulations!*





Congratulations, Fr. Mark Nowak!

We are grateful for your over 40 years of ministry and CARE to the children, staff and families of CND!

CAMP NOTRE DAME



Congratulations & God's Blessings to all the jubilarians, especially... Fr. Dennis Martin!

~ St. Teresa and Our Lady of Fatima
Union City

CONGRATULATIONS

Sr. Mary Agnes Zore, RSM

Sr. Mary Joan Beauseigneur, SSJ

Sr. Paul Marie Westlake, RSM

Fr. James Gutting

Fr. Scott Jabo

Fr. Rocco Tito



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

Congratulations & Thank You

Congratulations to all the jubilarians from the parishioners of
St. Hippolyte, Frenchtown and Our Lady of Lourdes, Cochranton.

We send our congratulations to Msgr. Joseph Riccardo on his 40th anniversary! - Mary's Place Restaurant & Catering, Punxsutawney

God bless you, Msgr. Joseph Riccardo, as you celebrate 40 years!
- Fezell's County Market, Punxsutawney

Immaculate Conception in Clarion joyfully sends best wishes to all the jubilarians celebrating milestones this year!

Immaculate Conception in Brookville and St. Dominic in Sigel extend congratulations to Sr. Paul Marie Westlake, RSM on her 60th!

WE APPRECIATE YOUR

faith,
dedication,
and service!

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!

THE ST. GREGORY (NORTH EAST)
PARISH FAMILY



SR. JEROME EUSTACE, OSB
- 70 YEARS

SR. VERONICA MIRAGE, OSB
- 60 YEARS

SR. MICHELLE WILWOHL, OSB
- 60 YEARS

SR. PAULA BURKE, OSB - 60 YEARS

NEWLY ORDAINED DEACON
RICHARD WINSCHER (PICTURED)



Congratulations
Deacon Michael J. Dittman
ordained May 29, 2015
Love, Heather and Phillip

Rev. Thomas M. Aleksa • 40 YEARS

my inspiration...
 "Be still, and know that I am God."
 —Psalm 46:10



To some, he's known as the "Polka Padre." Father Tom Aleksa, celebrating his 40th anniversary as a priest this year, has had the privilege of singing and traveling with some of the top American polka bands.

"I truly enjoy polka music," Father Aleksa says. "I have a number of polka CDs and I especially enjoy polka music without a tuba or banjo."

A native of the largely Polish St. Hedwig Church in Erie, Father Aleksa lives out the joy of his Polish-Lithuanian heritage and the Catholic faith.

Father Aleksa's first call to the priesthood had something of the visionary about it. Sitting at Sunday Mass as a second-grader, he felt that Jesus asked the young Tom to follow him.

"I shared this with my parents following Mass and they were very encouraging but did not push me into the seminary," he recalls.

By ninth grade, though, his mind was made up; he enrolled at St. Mark Seminary in 1963. On May 16, 1975, he was ordained at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

His first assignment was as parochial vicar at St. Stanislaus Parish, Erie. Next, he was parochial vicar at St. Francis in Clearfield. His first pastorate came in 1986 at the former Immaculate Conception Parish in Erie. Over the years, he served as pastor at nine parishes. Due to health reasons earlier this year, he resigned his most recent pastorate at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Erie, and lives temporarily at the Bishop Michael Murphy Priests' Retirement Residence, Erie.

As for the future of the Catholic Church, Father Aleksa asserts that "you get out of something what you put into it." He wants the church to offer a wide embrace to all people.

"The church is the church," he says. "It is not 'my' church or 'your' church. It is 'our' church—not buildings, countries or exclusivity."

For Father Aleksa, all conflicting forces are joined and resolved in spiritual solidarity. If a person lacks a spiritual life, he says, something is missing, regardless of worldly fortunes. To keep his own spirit whole, Father Aleksa remembers to humbly trust in Christ.

"For a long time," he says, "my mantra has been to put my hands into the hands of Christ and say, 'Not my will, but your will be done.' We must work on our spiritual lives every day. Companions on the journey are always welcome."

Father Aleksa celebrated his 40th jubilee with a Mass at St. Hedwig Church in Erie on May 17, followed by a party at the Polish Falcon's Nest #610.

biography...

PASTOR

- St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Erie
 - Holy Trinity Parish, Erie
 - Mount Calvary Parish, Erie
- Immaculate Conception Parish, Erie
 - St. Anthony Parish, Sheffield
 - St. John Parish, Tidioute
 - St. Anthony Parish, Tionesta
 - St. Bernard Parish, Bradford
 - St. Michael Parish, Fryburg

DIRECTOR • Black Apostolate, Diocese of Erie

CHAPLAIN • Erie Veterans Affairs Medical Center

- Pennsylvania Soldiers & Sailors Home, Erie
 - UPMC Hamot, Erie
 - Polish Falcons Nest #610
- City of Erie Fire Department
 - Diocesan Scouting
- St. Benedict Academy, Erie
 - Warren State Hospital

• Several Knights of Columbus Councils, Diocese of Erie

• East Side Federation of Polish Clubs and Societies

PRESIDENT • St. Francis Seminary Alumni Association

• Clearfield Ministerium • Bradford Area Ministerium

DEAN • Bradford Deanery • Warren Deanery

SENIOR ASSOCIATE • St. Luke Parish, Erie

TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATOR • St. Patrick Parish, Franklin

DIOCESAN BOARDS • Presbyteral Council

• Emmaus Committee

PAROCHIAL VICAR • St. Stanislaus Parish, Erie

• St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Clearfield

COMMUNITY SERVICE • Board of Trustees, St. Francis Seminary, Loretto • Erie Human Relations Commission

• Facilitator, Diocesan Cancer Support Group

• Ethics Committee, Bradford Regional Medical Center

• Camp Notre Dame



St. JOSEPH CHURCH, DuBOIS

DEAR MONSIGNOR SIEFER:

We, your Lithuanian flock, say, "Labai ačiu," (Thank you very much) for being our pastor from 1999 to 2009. You led us into a new millennium. You came to us as a Father and left as a Monsignor. In Lithuanian, "šiferis" means "slate." We knew you were slated for good things. "Sveikiname!" (Congratulations!) on 40 years of priesthood.

CONGRATULATIONS!

SR. ANGELA MARIE SERVIDEA, SSJ

SR. ANTONIA DOMERACKI, SSJ

SR. NANCY PRENATT, SSJ

SR. MARY ROSE ROMEO, SSJ

MSGR. JOSEPH RICCARDO

MSGR. RICHARD SIEFER

REV. SCOTT JABO

HOLY ROSARY, JOHNSONBURG

Rev. Msgr. Daniel K. Arnold • 40 YEARS

Some might say that Msgr. Dan Arnold has “sailed” through the past 40 years of his priesthood.

Once an avid sailor, Msgr. Arnold sees beauty in nature. He has sailed Lake Erie with fellow priests and the late Bishop Michael Murphy.

Bishop Murphy, he remembers, remained calm despite high waves or choppy water. For Msgr. Arnold sailing can be a spiritual adventure.

“It reveals the inner-substance of a person when they’re not panicking when the lake seems threatening,” he says.

Msgr. Arnold is selling his sailboat, but he remains busy as pastor of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Lawrence Park. He also is the current spiritual director of Cursillo in the Diocese of Erie, a movement that has been a longtime, personal commitment.

Raised at Our Lady of Peace Parish and School, Erie, Msgr. Arnold was inspired to become a priest in about seventh grade.

“I liked going to church with my parents and siblings. It just seemed right. As I got older, I started thinking about being a priest because it seemed like a way to help people and we had a really cool assistant pastor, Msgr. Cas Bogniak, who made it seem like a happy way to live and work,” Msgr. Arnold remembers. “I thought I’d try it by taking the entrance exam for the seminary and was admitted. I’ve been trying it ever since.”

Msgr. Arnold was ordained May 16, 1975, assuming his first assignment as parochial vicar at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Erie. He served there for six years, and then was assigned for another six years as parochial vicar at St. Luke Parish, Erie.

From 1987-99, he served Blessed Sacrament Parish, Erie, as both its co-pastor and pastor. During that time, he acted as secretary and as chairman of the Presbyteral Council. In 1999, he was named pastor of St. Boniface Parish, Erie, a pastorate he held until 2006.

For the next five years, he served as chaplain assistant at Penn State Behrend in Erie, with residence at Our Lady of Peace Parish and St. Andrew Parish, both in Erie. During that time, he also provided sacramental help at Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Harborcreek.

For Msgr. Arnold, the spiritual life requires a commitment to daily prayer.

“One of my profs said, ‘If you are too busy to take care of your spiritual life, you’re too busy,’” Msgr. Arnold says. “My professor also said, ‘Add daily prayer to your daily life and you’ll find you get much more work done.’ Of course, he was right.”

Msgr. Arnold has one hope for the future of the Catholic Church: that youth learn to love others “to the max.”

He adds, “Hope is the living condition of one who has faith. Love is faith realized.”



my inspiration...

“Faith is not belief without proof, but **trust without reservations.**” —D. Elton Trueblood

biography...

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR (CURRENT)

• Cursillo, Diocese of Erie

PASTOR

- St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Lawrence Park (current)
- St. Boniface Parish, Erie • Blessed Sacrament Parish, Erie

CO-PASTOR • Blessed Sacrament Parish, Erie

RESIDENT PRIEST • St. Andrew Parish

• Our Lady of Peace, both in Erie

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Erie
- St. Luke Parish, Erie

CHAPLAIN ASSISTANT • Penn State Behrend, Erie

SACRAMENTAL ASSISTANT

- Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Harborcreek

DIOCESAN BOARDS • Presbyteral Council

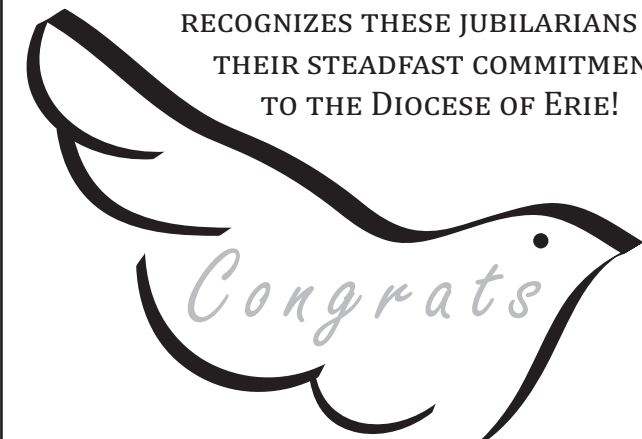


Prayer - Planning - Possibilities

www.ErieRCD.org/planning.asp

Visit often for up-to-date information
about the Diocese of Erie's pastoral planning process.

ST. AGATHA IN MEADVILLE PROUDLY
RECOGNIZES THESE JUBILARIANS FOR
THEIR STEADFAST COMMITMENT
TO THE DIOCESE OF ERIE!



Rev. Rocco Tito
Msgr. Richard R. Siefer
Rev. Mark A. Hoffman
Sr. Rachael McGuire, SSI
Sr. Mary Joan Beauseigneur, SSI
Sr. Mary Ellen Dwyer, SSI
Sr. André Feulner, SSI
Sr. Bernadine Gehringer, SSI
Sr. Maria Assumpta Ruza, SSI

Rev. James G. Gutting • 40 YEARS

Father Jim Gutting realizes the importance of cooperation in families and in our faith journeys. After all, he has seven sisters and six brothers.

“Being Catholic has always been deep in the Gutting DNA,” Father Gutting says. “It was always Sunday Mass, holy days, Catholic schools, serving at the altar, etc. It was always positive.”

When he was only 14, he entered St. Mark Seminary, Erie. He was ordained a priest at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie on May 16, 1975, and today is pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren.

“I never knew a priest ‘close-up’ until Father Cas Bogniak when I was in seventh grade at Our Lady of Peace in Erie. As a priest, he seemed very happy, especially around people and when helping them. This was very attractive to me, so I entered the seminary in ninth grade.”

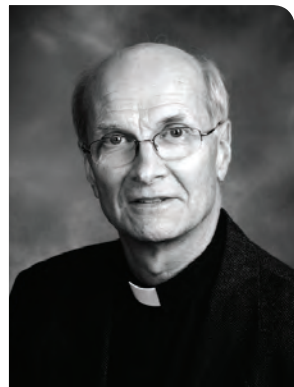
After his ordination, Father Gutting became parochial vicar at Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City, and later at St. Bernard Parish, Bradford, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Erie. He has served on the Presbyteral Council, the College of Consultors, the Priests’ Personnel Board, as well as the Emmaus Committee. Currently, he serves on the Priests’ Personnel Board, a term that will continue until 2018. He became a pastor for the first time in 1987 at St. Titus Parish, Titusville, where he remained until 1999.

From 1999 to 2009, he was pastor at Holy Rosary Parish, Erie. For three months in 2009, he served as pastor of Immaculate Conception and St. Mary parishes before they were merged. From 2009 to 2012, he was pastor of the merged St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Erie.

He served as dean of the Erie East Deanery from 2010-12, and was a part-time chaplain at the Erie Veterans Affairs Medical Center. In 2012, he was appointed pastor of Holy Redeemer.

Over the years, Father Gutting has come to see that families and the church improve when individuals recognize that they have “something valuable and unique to contribute to the whole.”

“I often sense,” he says, “that there is so much energy spent on out-doing the other and not nearly enough on bringing together our beautiful



my inspiration...

“I have come that you may **have life and have it abundantly.**” —John 10:10

biography...

PASTOR

- Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren (current)
- St. Titus Parish, Titusville
- Holy Rosary Parish • Immaculate Conception Parish
- St. Mary Parish • St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, all of Erie

DIOCESAN BOARDS

- Priests’ Personnel Board (current)
- Presbyteral Council
- Emmaus Committee
- College of Consultors

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City
- St. Bernard Parish, Bradford
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Erie

DEAN

- Erie East Deanery

CHAPLAIN

- Erie Veterans Affairs Medical Center

differences for the good of the larger family,” he says.

Father Gutting’s advice for a healthy spiritual life is twofold: set aside time for prayer and meditation and appreciate the prayer-like quality of spontaneous activities. He finds meditative moments in taking long drives, sharing meals with family and friends, or resting in early mornings, preferably with a cup of coffee at his side.

“When I was a young priest,” he says, “I never thought I’d find anything good about mornings, but, oh, how I’ve changed.”

ST. HEDWIG IN ERIE CONGRATULATES ITS NATIVE SONS:



REV. JOHN SANTOR
50 YEARS

THANK YOU!

REV. THOMAS ALEKSA
40 YEARS

GOD BLESS YOU!

Congratulations
to all those celebrating
Jubilee Years!

From all of us at



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Rev. Msgr. Daniel E. Magraw • 40 YEARS

Time. Talent. Treasure.

For Msgr. Daniel Magraw, the church is better when people—priests and religious included—give a little bit of each.

“I’ve always loved stewardship,” says Msgr. Magraw, who is celebrating his 40th anniversary as a priest of the Diocese of Erie this year.

Besides being pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Erie, he helps the diocese with stewardship renewal efforts in parishes and is the director of the annual Good Shepherd Collection, which provides for the care of retired diocesan priests. In the past five years, the Good Shepherd Collection has netted more than \$1 million.

“This year, I hope we will raise close to \$200,000,” he says.

His admiration for elderly priests is evident in all that Msgr. Magraw does. Three priests—in their 80s and 90s—live with him at the Blessed Sacrament rectory. And since he was a young priest, he appreciated the joyful, lifelong sacrifices made by the clergy.

“I’ve always felt a care and concern for our elderly priests,” he adds.

A native of St. John the Baptist Parish, Erie, Msgr. Magraw was ordained at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, on May 16, 1975. He was first appointed parochial vicar at St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Lawrence Park, and then served for five years as assistant chancellor for the diocese.

During that time, he was a weekend assistant at St. Paul Parish, Erie, and was a chaplain at Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie.

In 1987, after a four-year appointment as parochial vicar at Notre Dame Parish, Hermitage, he was appointed pastor of Mount Calvary Parish, Erie. He remained at Mount Calvary for 12 years, and then became pastor at Blessed Sacrament in 1999. He is currently in his third, six-year term as pastor at Blessed Sacrament.

Msgr. Magraw has contributed his talents to the diocese as a member of the Presbyteral Council and the Bishop’s College of Consultors. Since 2011, he has been a delegate for matrimonial dispensations for the Diocesan Office of Matrimonial Concerns and the Tribunal.

Even as a young boy, Msgr. Magraw wanted to be a priest. He looked up to



my inspiration...

“Without priests, the church would not be able to live that fundamental obedience which is at the very heart of her existence and mission in history, an obedience in response to the command of Christ, **‘Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.’** (Matthew 28:10), and **‘Do this in remembrance of me.’** (Luke 22:19; cf. 1 Corinthians 11:24).”

—From *Pastores Dabo Vobis*, #1, St. John Paul II

the priests and the Sisters of St. Joseph at his home parish of St. John, remembering in particular a visit to his school by a priest from the Divine Word Missionaries.

He entered St. Mark Seminary, Erie, as a sophomore in high school. He then studied at St. Mary’s College and Seminary in Kentucky, and at Christ the King Seminary in New York.

His greatest inspiration continues to come from the words said after the consecration during Mass: “Do this in memory of me.”

“Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood on Holy Thursday,” Msgr. Magraw says. “Since that time, Mass is celebrated at every moment by some priest some place in the world. What a great gift Jesus has given to the church and the people of God to be nourished by the Word of God, but also in Holy Communion.”

biography...

PASTOR

- Blessed Sacrament Parish, Erie (current)
- Mount Calvary Parish, Erie

DIRECTOR (CURRENT)

- Annual Good Shepherd Collection, Diocese of Erie

DELEGATE, MATRIMONIAL DISPENSATIONS (CURRENT)

- Diocesan Office of Matrimonial Concerns and the Tribunal, Erie

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Lawrence Park
- Notre Dame Parish, Hermitage

OTHER DIOCESAN POSTS

- Assistant chancellor
- Presbyteral Council
- Bishop’s College of Consultors

CHAPLAIN

- Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. Paul Parish, Erie

Congratulations!

Rev. James G. Gutting

The Holy Redeemer Parish Community
in Warren rejoices with you and thanks you
for your dedicated service of 40 years



Congratulations and best wishes to all Jubilarians!

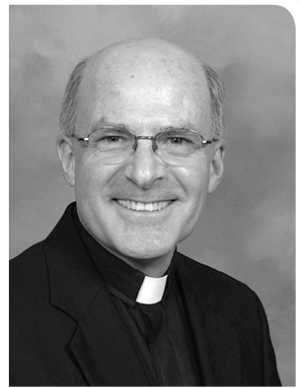
We especially pay tribute to the following:

- 60 years - Sr. Bernadine Gehringer, S.S.J.
- 60 years - Sr. Angela Marie Servidea, S.S.J.
- 50 years - Rev. John Bauer
- 25 years - Rev. Scott Jabo

May God bless you for your service!

Rev. Dennis A. Martin • 40 YEARS

my inspiration...
 "May God give you the power through his spirit for your inner self to **grow strong**, so that Christ may live in your heart through faith."
 —Ephesians 3:16



For 23 years, Father Dennis Martin has ministered to the sick and dying and their families at Saint Vincent Hospital in Erie. As one might expect, the job isn't easy.

Recently, he attended the funeral of a baby who was born at Saint Vincent. Father Martin became close to the family through several months of care.

"I baptized the baby and developed a friendship with the family," he says. "I love what I do, but it can be a difficult, trying ministry. It can be difficult but rewarding in that you meet people at a difficult time in their lives."

Father Martin began his affiliation with Saint Vincent as a part-time chaplain in 1992. In 1994, he was appointed as full-time chaplain. The ministry also entails frequent ministry to families outside the hospital.

Father Martin, who marks his 40th anniversary as a Catholic priest this year, says the Eucharist and its graces nourish him.

"The gift of priesthood and the Eucharist are truly gifts and a very humble experience for me," he says. "The Eucharist is what nourishes me to show the face of Christ to others in my daily ministry."

A native of St. James Parish, Wilkinsburg, Pa., Father Martin first entered the Society of Mary (Marianists) in 1966. He traveled to Australia in 1970 as a teaching brother and studied for the seminary in Sydney, Australia. He was ordained a priest Sept. 6, 1975, at St. Mary's Church in Melbourne, Australia.

In 1980, Father Martin returned to the United States and began ministering in the Diocese of Erie in 1982. He was parochial vicar at St. George Parish, Erie, from 1982-85. In April 1984, he was incardinated into the diocese by Bishop Michael Murphy.

From 1985-86, he was parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish, Sharon, and from 1986-87, he served as administrator at St. Teresa Parish, Union City. He was appointed pastor at St. Teresa in 1987, a position he held for five years until being named parochial vicar in 1992 at Our Lady of Mount

biography...

CHAPLAIN (CURRENT)

• Saint Vincent Hospital, Erie
PASTOR

• St. Teresa Parish, Union City
ADMINISTRATOR

• St. Teresa Parish, Union City
PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Boniface Parish, Erie
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Erie
- St. Joseph Parish, Sharon
- St. George Parish, Erie

Carmel, Erie.

From 1993-94, he was parochial vicar at St. Boniface Parish, Erie.

In his 40 years as a priest, and especially in the care of the sick and suffering at Saint Vincent, Father Martin has come to believe that the future of the church will flourish by being merciful.

"The church will grow and flourish only when passion for the Gospel ... is lived from the heart, only when passion for our sisters and brothers who carry heavy burdens are welcomed through the open door, only when passion for healing, forgiving and loving drives us to end discrimination, violence and hatred for all our sisters and brothers," Father Martin says.



Congratulations

Fr. Tom Aleksa

**on 40 years of service to the church.
 May God continue to bless you
 in the coming years.**

Thank you,

**The parishioners of St. John, Tidioute
 and St. Anthony, Tionesta**



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR JUBILEE,

FR. JOHN SANTOR

FR. JOHN BAUER

FR. DENNIS MARTIN

THE MANY SISTERS...

...AND THE NEWLY ORDAINED DEACON STEPHEN FREZZA!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO ST. JOSEPH CHURCH AND SCHOOL.

- ST. JOSEPH CHURCH/BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY, ERIE -



CONGRATULATIONS, MSGR. DANIEL MAGRAW
ON 40 YEARS IN THE PRIESTHOOD.
YOUR PARISH AND SCHOOL FAMILY APPRECIATE
ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION!
YOU ARE OUR GOOD SHEPHERD.



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, ERIE

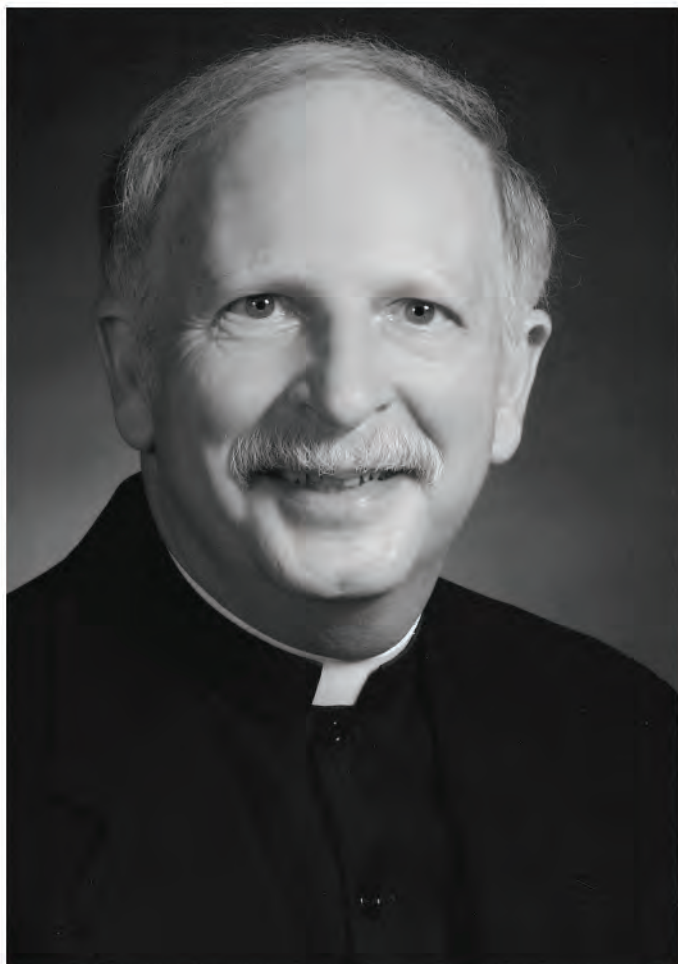
c o n g r a t u l a t i o n s



"I am in your midst as one who serves." "Diaconia" means service, to serve, to render selfless service unto. Frank Anthony Luciani was ordained Friday, May 29, 2015, at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, after completing five years of study in the Erie diocesan diaconate program. It has always been a calling for Frank, he will tell you, from his early childhood when Grandma Mary Angela Luciani would take him to daily Mass at St. Michael's. Frank attended St. Michael's School and was in the last graduating class in 1965. How appropriate

that in the year of his 50th high school graduation, he has been ordained as deacon. Frank attended Maryknoll College and seminary in Glen Ellyn, Ill., where he aspired to be a priest. God had other plans for Frank, still destined to live a life of service. In 1985, Frank married the late Lia Azzato Luciani, raised his family of two sons Kevin and Marc, and two daughters Gina and Teresa. Frank worked as director of religious education at St. Michael Church, where he has served in many capacities over the years. A retiree of the state of

Pennsylvania, Frank worked in social care and in the Office of Vocational Rehab. In 2007, he married Tia Tofani Luciani. Frank resides in Greenville, with his wife Tia and her children, Alex and Megan Fisher. Congratulations, Frank, on accomplishing your lifelong dream and calling to service. The St. Michael's community is so proud you have been appointed to serve them. We, your family, are especially proud of the selfless and loving man you are.



Reverend Mark A. Nowak

*Priest and Pastor
Servant and Shepherd*

*For your devoted service,
we thank you.*

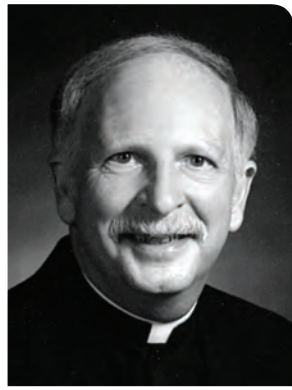
The Parishioners of
Saint Francis Xavier Parish



of Ordination

Rev. Mark A. Nowak • 40 YEARS

my inspiration...
 “You have been told what is good
 and what the Lord requires of
 you—only to do the right and to
 love goodness, and to **walk humbly
 with your God.**” —*Micah 6:8*



Father Mark Nowak calls himself a
 disciple of Ignatian spirituality based on the
 Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

“The Principle and Foundation of the Exercises profess that we come
 from God and are seeking to return to God as one humanity, one planet, one
 universe,” Father Nowak says.

As he celebrates his 40th anniversary to the priesthood this year, he tries
 to live out this message, a belief that God unconditionally reaches out to each
 of us and all of creation.

This is in keeping with Pope Francis’ recent encyclical “*Laudato Si’*: On
 Care of Our Common Home,” which especially directs all people to a greater
 concern for the poor.

“I hope that we begin to moderate our own excesses so that others may
 have a share,” he adds.

For the past 47 years, Father Nowak has found maintaining the grounds
 at Camp Notre Dame to be “a therapeutic and spiritual experience.” He be-
 lieves that recognizing the simple good in everyday things is necessary in our
 lives.

“We cannot hear the voice of God or recognize the face of God in a
 world where there are so many distractions,” he says.

Currently, Father Nowak is pastor at St. Francis Xavier Parish, McKean,
 an appointment he has held since 2008. He also is director of the Permanent
 Diaconate Program for the Diocese of Erie.

Besides his pastorate, he has served at several other parishes, either as a
 temporary parochial administrator, administrator, parochial vicar or resident
 priest. He is currently a member of the board of directors at Camp Notre
 Dame.

From 1975-83, he taught at Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie, where he
 also served as assistant headmaster for three years. From 1983-84, he was a
 member of the faculty and assistant headmaster at Elk County Catholic High
 School, St. Marys. And from 1984-86 and 1991-94, he was an adjunct faculty
 member at Gannon University.

Father Nowak has participated in a wide variety of campus ministry
 training and mentoring experiences, as well as having helped organize and
 direct both Cursillo and clergy continuing education programs. At St. Mark
 Seminary, he was director of spiritual formation and the continuum program.

From 1994-99, he served as campus minister at Edinboro University of
 Pennsylvania, beginning his long affiliation with parishes in southern Erie
 County, including St. Anthony of Padua, Cambridge Springs; Our Lady of
 the Lake, Edinboro; St. Philip, Linesville; and, most recently, St. Francis
 Xavier.

In 2006, he took a sabbatical to attend the Jesuit Center for Spiritual
 Growth in Wernersville, Pa.

Whether he is ministering to students or adults, Father Nowak continues
 to be touched by the faith of many people he has met over the past 40 years.

“People’s faith is especially apparent in times of struggle or in sacramen-
 tal moments,” he says. “St. Ignatius writes of God’s presence in all things and
 I have tried to discover that and help others to do the same.”

biography...

PASTOR (CURRENT) • St. Francis Xavier Parish, McKean
DIRECTOR

- Permanent Diaconate Program, Diocese of Erie (current)
 - Clergy Continuing Education, Diocese of Erie
 - Spiritual Formation and Continuum Program,

St. Mark Seminary, Erie
MEMBER (CURRENT)

- Board of Directors, Camp Notre Dame
PRESIDENT

• Campus Ministry Board, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
ADMINISTRATOR • St. Francis Xavier Parish, McKean

- St. Philip Parish, Linesville

- St. Benedict Mission, Daguscahonda

TEMPORARY PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Cambridge Springs
- Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Edinboro

RESIDENT PRIEST • St. Francis Xavier Parish, McKean

- St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Cambridge Springs
- St. Michael the Archangel Parish, DuBois
- St. James Parish, Erie

PAROCHIAL VICAR • St. Peter Cathedral Parish, Erie
OTHER DIOCESAN POSTS

- Emmaus Core Team • Intercom Retreat Team
- Secretary, Clergy Continuing Education
- Priestly Concerns Committee • Presbyteral Council

ASSISTANT HEADMASTER

- Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie
- Elk County Catholic, St. Marys

FACULTY • Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie

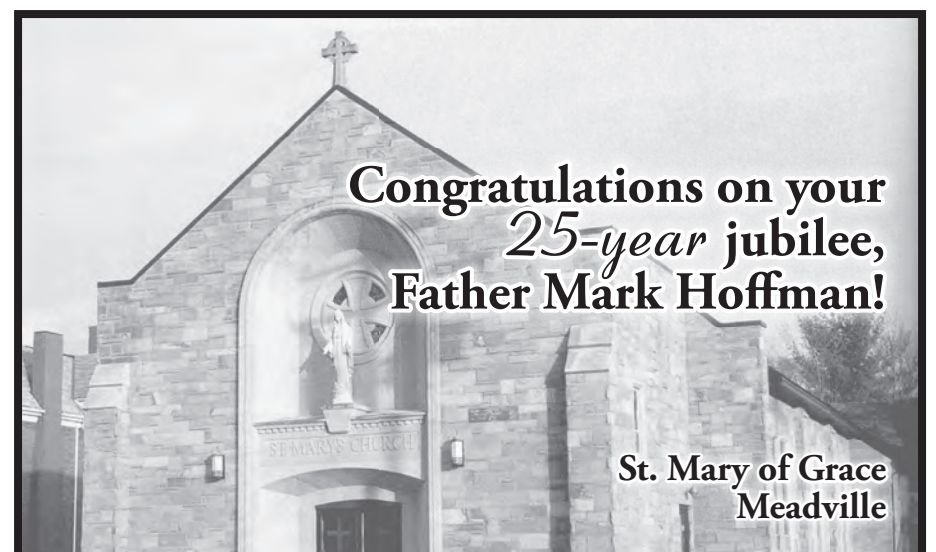
- Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys
- Adjunct, Gannon University

CAMPUS MINISTRY

- DuBois Central Catholic High School, DuBois
- Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

CHAPLAIN

- Christ the King Manor, DuBois



**Congratulations on your
 25-year jubilee,
 Father Mark Hoffman!**

**St. Mary of Grace
 Meadville**

Rev. Msgr. Joseph J. Riccardo, V.F. • 40 YEARS

my inspiration...
 "And if anyone hears my words and does not observe them, I do not condemn him, for **I did not come to condemn the world but to save the world.**" —John 12



The image of the pre-Vatican II priest, standing at the altar with his back to the congregation, fascinated the young Joseph Riccardo. He was curious about this special connection between the priest and Jesus.

To test the waters, as it were, he remembers going home and acting out the Mass. His brothers and sisters participated as members of the "congregation." Even as he grew up in his home parish of St. Agnes in Lock Haven, Pa., his interest in the priesthood continued to grow. He enrolled as a high school freshman at St. Mark Seminary in Erie.

Today, celebrating his 40 years as a priest, he says, "I have come to deeply appreciate the limitless mercy of God for myself and for those I have helped return to the faith."

Ordained at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, on May 16, 1975, he began his priestly life as the parochial vicar at Holy Rosary Parish in Johnsonburg, and then at St. Joseph Parish in Warren.

Msgr. Riccardo currently serves as pastor of Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish, Punxsutawney, which has been his home base on and off for more than 20 years.

biography...

PASTOR

- Ss. Cosmas and Damian Parish, Punxsutawney (current)
- St. Anthony, Walston (current) • St. Joseph, Anita (current)
 - St. Adrian, Delancey (current)
- Church of the Good Shepherd, West Middlesex
 - Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion

DIOCESAN BOARDS (CURRENT)

- Presbyteral Council • Bishop's College of Consultors

PRESIDENT (CURRENT)

- Council for Human Dignity, Punxsutawney

- DEAN** • DuBois Deanery (current) • Oil City Deanery

EDUCATION TASK FORCE (CURRENT)

- Pastoral Planning, Diocese of Erie

- PAROCHIAL VICAR** • Holy Rosary Parish, Johnsonburg

- St. Joseph Parish, Warren

- DEFENDER OF THE BOND** • Marriage Tribunal, Diocese of Erie

He also currently is pastor of St. Anthony in Walston, St. Joseph in Anita, and St. Adrian in Delancey.

He was first named pastor of Ss. Cosmas and Damian in 1987. In 2000, he left to become pastor of Good Shepherd in West Middlesex, and later pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarion.

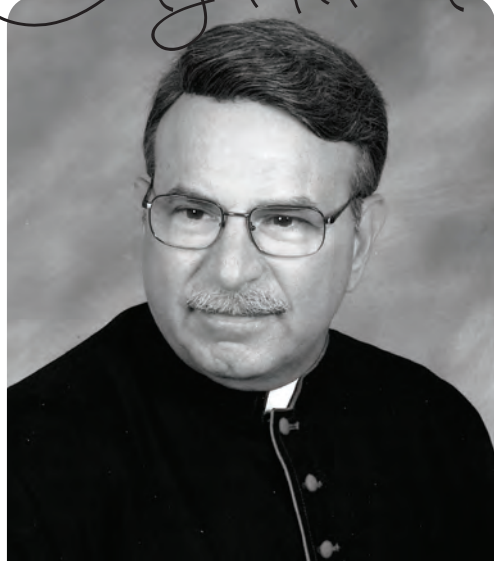
Given the title "monsignor" in 2000, Msgr. Riccardo returned as pastor of Ss. Cosmas and Damian in 2006. He has undertaken numerous projects at the parish, including taking ownership and administration of an apartment complex for equal housing in Punxsutawney. Currently, he is president of the Council for Human Dignity of Punxsutawney, which oversees the housing program.

For the diocese, Msgr. Riccardo currently serves on the Presbyteral Council, is dean of the DuBois Deanery, and is a member of the Bishop's College of Consultors. At one time, he served as defender of the bond for the Marriage Tribunal and was dean of the Oil City Deanery.

Msgr. Riccardo likes to adapt a message from St. John's Gospel, saying: "As long as we have breath to breathe, Jesus is our Savior, not our judge." He especially thanks the people of Ss. Cosmas and Damian, who have, he says, "become family and a source of support in prayer and friendship."

Msgr. Riccardo sees prayer as an essential part of any spirituality, analogous to the way an athlete practices to be in top condition. A spiritual life, he says, must be pursued with passion, "otherwise it will die on the vine."

Congratulations!



WE ARE PROUD AND APPRECIATIVE OF YOUR SERVICE THE LAST 40 YEARS.

God bless you!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 452
 Ss. COSMAS AND DAMIAN, PUNXSUTAWNEY

Msgr. Joseph Riccardo,
 Thank you for over 20 years of caring and praying for us!
 Especially thank you for coming home to Punxsutawney to express your sympathy and prayers when we lost our daughter, Shannon.
 God bless. You are a blessing to us!



STEVE AND SUSIE ROSEMAN
 STEVE'S GREENHOUSE & FLORIST

Rev. Msgr. Richard R. Siefer • 40 YEARS

The kitchen table is Msgr. Richard Siefer's favorite place.

As a child, he watched his "Nan" knead, bake and butter bread before he devoured it, fresh from the oven. He did homework there, played cards with his family and shared meals.

As an adult, he often shares stories of wisdom with friends and parishioners at the tables in their homes or at restaurants in DuBois. He shares lunch with the parish staff in the rectory kitchen.

For Msgr. Siefer, "breaking bread" occurs at many kinds of Eucharistic tables—all life-giving, all full of thanks.

As he marks his 40th anniversary as a priest this year, he remembers two people who significantly influenced him. His mother witnessed her commitment to her children and to God. And Benedictine Sister Joan Chittister—along with all of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie who taught him during his formative years in Oil City—guided him in thought, action and faith.

"I am so grateful for their guidance and witness in my life, not only in the past, but in the present also," Msgr. Siefer says.

Msgr. Siefer attended St. Joseph Church and School in Oil City. He admired Bishop Edward McManaman, who had served as pastor. He attended Venango Catholic High School, Oil City, where he was encouraged by priests to enter the seminary. He enrolled at St. Mary's College in St. Mary, Ky., and was ordained on May 16, 1975.

Msgr. Siefer considers daily prayer to be one of the "must-do's" for a healthy spiritual life. He treasures his time spent at Villa Maria Educational and Spirituality Center, where he received his certification in spiritual direction.

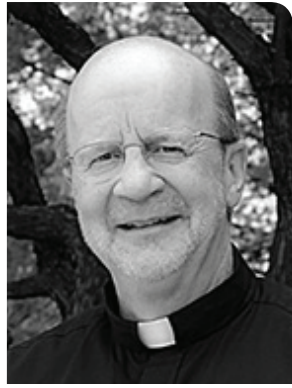
Today, as pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois, he strives to direct others in their spiritual journey.

Couple this passion with his intense interest in anything "Yankee-related."

"I am the No. 1 New York Yankees fan in the universe," he says. "During baseball season, I live and breathe the Yankees. My dad was a fan; we would go to Cleveland's Municipal Stadium to watch them play. My idols were there before me: Mickey Mantle, Yogi Berra, Whitey Ford."

Msgr. Siefer points to Pope Francis as the future of the church.

"My hope is that we will continue to 'build up the kingdom of God here on earth and be unafraid of what is new,'" Msgr. Siefer says. "Since Vatican II, we have come so far; we cannot return to times past. Pope Francis brings us back to the table in unity, in forgiveness, in dialogue."



my inspiration...

"My deepest vocation is to **be a witness** to the glimpses of God I have been allowed to catch." —Henri Nouwen

biography...

CHAIR, PARISH LISTENING TASK FORCE (CURRENT)

- Pastoral planning, Diocese of Erie

DIRECTOR, CLERGY CONTINUING EDUCATION (CURRENT)

PASTOR

- St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois (current)
- St. Patrick Parish, team ministry, Erie
 - St. Anthony Parish, Sheffield
 - St. Joseph Parish, DuBois

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Agatha Parish, Meadville
- Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie
- Holy Rosary Parish, Johnsonburg

DIOCESAN BOARDS

- Bishop's Pastors Review Board
- Presbyteral Council

Congratulations!

Msgr. Ernest J. Daley

Sr. Josephine DePetro, SSJ

Sr. Bernadine Gehringer, SSJ

Sr. Mary Kevin Palazzetti, SSJ

Sr. Maria Assumpta Ruza, SSJ

Sr. Barbara Ann Vavreck, SSJ

Sr. Nancy Prenatt, SSJ

Sr. Mary Rose Romeo, SSJ

Msgr. Andrew H. Karg

Msgr. Daniel K. Arnold

Rev. James G. Gutting

Msgr. Richard R. Siefer

and to our current pastor,

Rev. Glenn Whitman



Our Lady of Peace
CHURCH

Congratulations,
Sr. Angela Akpabio, HHCJ, M.D.!

From the Community Health Net Board of Directors and Staff
Terry Scutella, Board Chair
R. Anthony Snow, M.D., Chief Executive Officer



Rev. Glenn R. Whitman • 40 YEARS

my inspiration...

"I'm still learning." —Michelangelo

"As I get older, I don't believe there are as many coincidences as we think," says Father Glenn Whitman, who is celebrating his 40th anniversary as a priest this year. "Assignments that came out of thin air were proofs of God's plan. I never could have written this story line!"

The earliest part of the story occurred when Father Whitman was a middle-school student inspired by the heroic stories of missionaries. He became aware of the thought, "You can do this," a phrase that still comes back to him at important moments.

In considering the priesthood, Father Whitman was attracted to the liturgy, the music and what he imagined parish life was all about. But, it was the possibility of teaching that really hooked him. Once he was accepted into the seminary, he felt at home immediately.

Early in his priesthood, Father Whitman taught at Kennedy Catholic High School, Hermitage, but he has spent the majority of the past 40 years as a pastor and administrator of parishes in the Diocese of Erie.

The implementation of the teachings of Vatican II over the past several decades was and is at the heart of the Catholic Church, he says. Those changes have influenced his service in parishes, schools, social services and diocesan office work. They also opened doors for the laity.

"We came to see that informed and educated lay leaders were not a threat to our role as priests," he explains.

Father Whitman has felt blessed to be the pastor overseeing parish musical programs in Girard, Sharon and now at Our Lady of Peace in Erie. As for his own spirituality, Father Whitman is direct.

"My Jesus Caritas group has saved my priesthood and my life," he states.

Although two members have passed away and one has left the priesthood, the group still includes Father Whitman, Msgr. Gerald Koos and Father Jerry Sim-



biography...

PASTOR • Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie (current)
• St. Joseph Parish, Sharon

• St. John the Evangelist Parish, Girard

ADMINISTRATOR • St. Bernadette Parish, Saegertown

• St. Bartholomew Parish, Sharpsville

• Holy Cross Parish, Fairview

PAROCHIAL VICAR • St. George Parish, Erie

• St. Bartholomew Parish, Sharpsville

WEEKEND ASSISTANT • St. Joseph Parish, Sharon

• Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, West Middlesex

• St. Hippolyte Parish, Guys Mills

FACULTY • Kennedy Catholic High School, Hermitage

CHAPLAIN • St. John XXIII Home, Hermitage

• San Rosario Nursing Home, Cambridge Springs

DIOCESAN WORK • Director, Continuum Office

• Director/member, Priests' Personnel Board

• Director, Clergy Continuing Education

• Member, Presbyteral Council

• Member, Bishop's College of Consultors

SPECIAL MINISTRY

• Holy Family Parish, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

mons, all of whom have met every month for more than 30 years.

"We review our lives, catch up on what's going on and pray together," he says.

A man of hope, Father Whitman feels positive about the current pastoral planning effort in the Diocese of Erie.

"The data we've mined is rough and hard to swallow," he admits. "But it's forming the skeleton on which a plan for the future can be built. Corporations do this regularly to stay on top of their game."

From Father Whitman's perspective, there's only one choice: "It's our turn."

Sr. Angela Akpabio, HHCJ, MD • 25 YEARS

my inspiration...

"The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want." —Psalm 23

Sister Angela Akpabio, HHCJ, M.D., grew up in Nigeria but has found a home as a medical doctor the past seven years in the Diocese of Erie.

A member of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus, she is celebrating her 25th anniversary of religious life this year.

"The grace of God has sustained me thus far," Sister Angela says. "My stronghold has been trusting in divine providence, the support of my sisters in community, and the encouragement from my family and friends."

Sister Angela realized her vocation growing up near Mercy Hospital, a Catholic medical center in Nigeria. Members of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus worked there and continue to do so in various capacities today.

"Anytime I went there to get care or visit, I would admire the sisters in their grey and white habits," she recalls.

Currently, Sister Angela is a physician at Community Health Net in Erie and lives with the Sisters of St. Joseph at the Community Living Center.

In 2008, she graduated with a doctorate in medicine from Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, and then began residency training at Saint



biography...

PHYSICIAN

• Community Health Net, Erie (current)

• Resident physician, Saint Vincent Family Medicine, Erie

TUTOR OF SCIENCE/MATH

• Marygrove College, Detroit, Mich.

Vincent Family Medicine in Erie.

Born in Nigeria, she graduated from Loreto Girls Juniorate High School. She entered the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus on Dec. 16, 1990, in Ghana, Africa, and professed her final vows at the HHCJ Generalate Chapel, Ifuho, Ikot Ekepene, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria, on Aug. 12, 2000.

She moved to the United States in 1996, earning bachelor's degrees in both biology and chemistry from Marygrove College, Detroit.

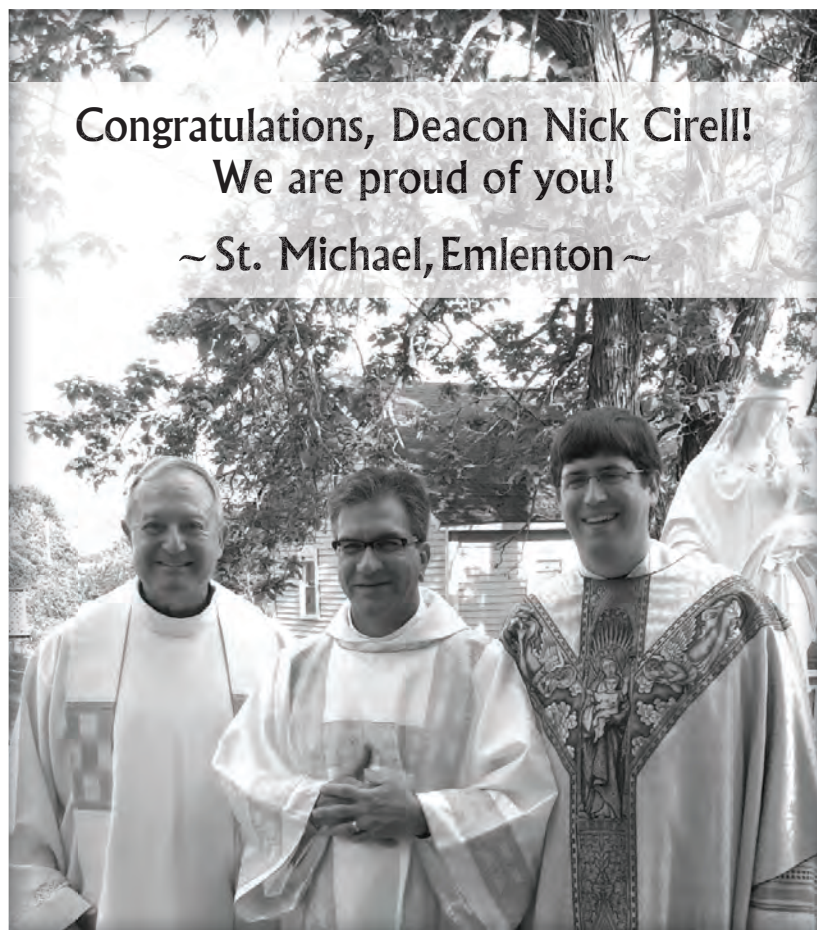
While in the U.S., Sister Angela has been inspired by the support of sisters in various religious communities, including: the Monroe Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters, Adrian Dominican Sisters, Kalamazoo Congregation of St. Joseph Sisters, and now the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania.

She most admires Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta who cared for the world's poorest of the poor.

"I aspire to live simply and help people in need, especially women, children, the poor and the underprivileged," Sister Angela says. "If I can even achieve 10 percent of what she did for the poor, my earthly mission would be somewhat accomplished."



**God's blessings
on all the Jubilarians!**



Congratulations to all of the 2015 Jubilarians

on their vocational milestones and especially those who have helped care for and serve the members of our Penn Highlands Healthcare communities in Cameron, Clearfield, Elk and Jefferson counties.

Sr. Antonia Domeracki, SSJ – 75 Years
 Sr. Rachael McGuire, SSJ – 75 Years
 Sr. Mary Agnes Zore, RSM – 70 Years
 Sr. Mary Joan Beauseigneur, SSJ – 60 Years
 Msgr. Ernest J. Daley – 60 Years
 Sr. Rita Kartavich, RSM – 60 Years
 Sr. Maria Assumpta Ruza, SSJ – 60 Years
 Sr. Angela Marie Servidea, SSJ – 60 Years
 Sr. Josephine DePetro, SSJ – 60 Years
 Rev. Gilio L. Dipre – 60 Years - In Memorium
 Sr. André Feulner, SSJ – 60 Years
 Sr. Barbara Ann Vavreck, SSJ – 60 Years
 Sr. Paul Marie Westlake, RSM – 60 Years
 Rev. John F. Bauer – 50 Years
 Rev. Leo J. Gallina – 50 Years
 Sr. Nancy Prenatt, SSJ – 50 Years
 Sr. Mary Rose Romeo, SSJ – 50 Years
 Msgr. Andrew H. Karg – 50 Years
 Rev. Thomas M. Aleksa – 40 Years
 Rev. Mark Nowak – 40 Years
 Msgr. Joseph J. Riccardo, VF – 40 Years
 Msgr. Richard R. Siefer – 40 Years
 Rev. Mark A. Hoffman – 25 Years
 Rev. Scott W. Jabo – 25 Years
 Rev. Alfred Patterson, OSB – 25 Years



**Penn
Highlands
Healthcare**

204 Hospital Avenue | DuBois, PA 15801

www.phhealthcare.org

Rev. Mark A. Hoffman • 25 YEARS

my inspiration...
 “There is **no greater love than this,**
 than to lay down your life for a friend.”
 —John 15:13



One fall afternoon, the young Mark Hoffman was leaving his fifth-grade classroom at Our Lady of Peace School in Erie when his teacher, Sister Andrea Bennett, SSJ, asked to speak with him.

“Mark,” she said, looking him straight in the eye. “I noticed that you really enjoy being an altar boy.”

“Very much so, Sister,” he responded.

“I have something for you,” she continued. “This is my profession cross.”

Sister Andrea showed him a small, slightly tarnished brass and wooden crucifix, saying: “I received this many years ago as a very young sister, and now I want to give it to you. I believe that Jesus is calling you to the priesthood. If you also feel him calling you to this important life, please say ‘yes.’”

Eventually, he did say, “yes.” And this year, he celebrates his silver anniversary as a priest of the Diocese of Erie. Father Mark Hoffman still carries with him the memory of that distant afternoon, along with a lifelong lesson: “An authentic call must be rooted in the cross.”

The cross, he says, acknowledges the important sacrificial aspect of faith

and service.

“Placing one’s life in total service to Christ has made me come to believe that it is easy to hold on to the cute baby Jesus in the manger,” he says, “but try holding on to the bloody body of the crucified Jesus who stood against selfish, popular trends and attitudes as he preached a gospel of self-sacrificing love. It takes guts to be a priest in today’s world.”

Having served as pastor of five different parishes—currently St. Thomas and St. Elizabeth parishes in Corry—Father Hoffman views his own priesthood as a sacrifice.

“I am inspired to be a priest after the image of Jesus, to die to one’s self for the mission of the Gospel,” he says.

Father Hoffman believes a healthy spiritual life as the necessary antidote to all forms of selfishness and sin. Taking time to attend Mass or pray every day reminds us of our divine nature.

“Sadly, when we get the idea that we have grown beyond this intimate love of family and God, and get used to wearing a mask of self-reliance, we substitute God with the quick and easy popular life,” Father Hoffman says.

Besides some close friends, Father Hoffman has been influenced by the strong faith of myriad people: his hometown pastors, Msgr. Ernest Daley and the late Father Otto Pisoni and Msgr. James F. Daily; his seminary spiritual director, Father Jude Brady, OSB; fellow priests Father Ed Lohse and Father Andrew Deskevich; and even St. John Paul II, who he met at World Youth Day in 1993.

“They live lives which stand for something great, but each does it in a slightly different way,” he says. “Some are scholars, some are pastors, some are strong and some are gentle. All are convicted of the teachings of Christ and this helps me to stay strong in my vocation.”

biography...

PASTOR

- St. Elizabeth Parish, Corry (current)
- St. Thomas Parish, Corry (current)
- St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie
- Beloved Disciple Parish, Grove City
- St. Mary of Grace Parish, Meadville

TEMPORARY PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

- St. Agatha Parish, Meadville

CHAPLAIN • Mercer County Serra Club

- Allegheny College, Meadville
- Grove City College, Grove City

DIOCESAN POSTS

- Regional vocation co-director for Mercer County
- Vocation director, Diocese of Erie
- Presbyteral Council

PAROCHIAL VICAR • St. Patrick Parish, Franklin

- St. Bernard Parish, Bradford
- St. Agatha Parish, Meadville
- St. Charles Parish, New Bethlehem

FACULTY • Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie

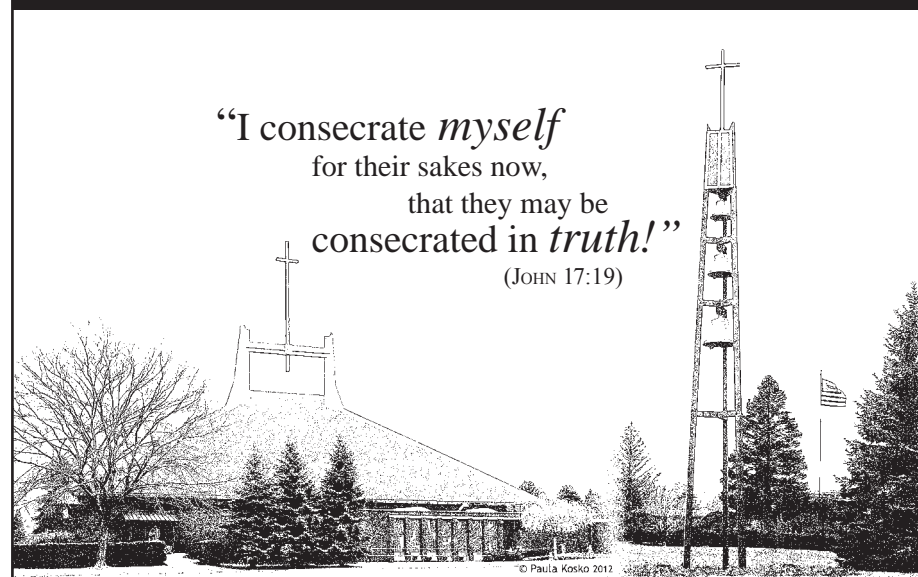
- Bradford Central Christian High School, Bradford
- Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. Bernard Parish, Bradford
- St. Boniface Parish, Kersey

Congratulations,
 Fr. Mark Hoffman
 & Msgr. Ernie Daley!

Thank you for your ministry to the people
 of St. Jude the Apostle Church!



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

Rev. Scott W. Jabo • 25 YEARS

Father Scott Jabo recalls the persistent feeling he had about becoming a priest throughout much of his youth and young adulthood. A number of people encouraged him to consider the priesthood, but he decided instead to study medicine.

By his senior year in college, however, he changed his mind.

“I decided to hold off on going to medical school because my heart just was not in it anymore,” he recalls.

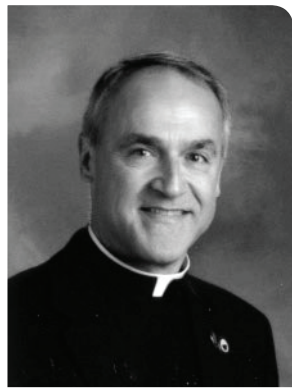
He entered the workforce for a few years until, he says, “I finally gave in and decided to find out if I was, in fact, being called to a religious vocation.”

This year, he celebrates his 25th anniversary as a Catholic priest for the Diocese of Erie. He has never regretted that decision.

“The inner peace that I now have and the difference that I can make in the lives of others by witnessing to the Gospel and administering the sacraments is something I would not trade for anything else in the world,” Father Jabo says.

Today, he finds peace and fulfillment as president of Cathedral Preparatory School and Villa Maria Academy in Erie. In fact, during the Prep graduation ceremony this spring, Father Jabo had to pause and compose himself.

“It happens every year,” he says. “I remember how they were, entering as young freshmen. I am always very moved when I see them as young men, so well-prepared for the next stage of their lives.”



my inspiration...

“Without a doubt, celebrating Mass—the Eucharist—is still an unbelievably **awesome and humbling experience** for me. To this day, it is hard for me to fathom that God is somehow working through me, and through my faults and flaws, to change ordinary bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus Christ.”

Father Jabo says some of the holiest and most inspirational people he has encountered in his life are the young men and women who have been his students in the 24 years during which he has been involved with education.

“I see in them the hope for the future,” he says. “I have high hopes that as these young people mature, they will be the strong, faith-filled, moral leaders and change-agents that our world needs.”

A self-avowed workaholic, Father Jabo has to work to keep his life balanced. He enjoys getting away from it all by camping, hiking and biking, especially on rails-to-trails routes across the country. He also enjoys flying airplanes as a private pilot, but doesn’t get up in the air as often as he’d like.

His top priorities are clear: prayer and charity.

“Without a strong spiritual life nourished with prayer, Scriptures, the sacraments—particularly the Eucharist—and charitable acts of service, it is easy for the well to run dry, and to be spiritually bankrupt, resulting in spiritual burn-out,” he observes.

biography...

PRESIDENT (CURRENT)

- Erie Catholic Preparatory School (Cathedral Prep and Villa Maria Academy), Erie

BOARD MEMBER (CURRENT)

- Board of Trustees, Gannon University, Erie
- Board of Directors, Harborcreek Youth Services

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

- St. James Parish, Erie (current)
- St. Boniface Parish, Erie
- Holy Rosary Parish, Johnsonburg
- St. Bernard Parish, Bradford

HEADMASTER

- Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie

ASSISTANT HEADMASTER

- Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- St. Titus Parish, Titusville

DIOCESAN BOARDS

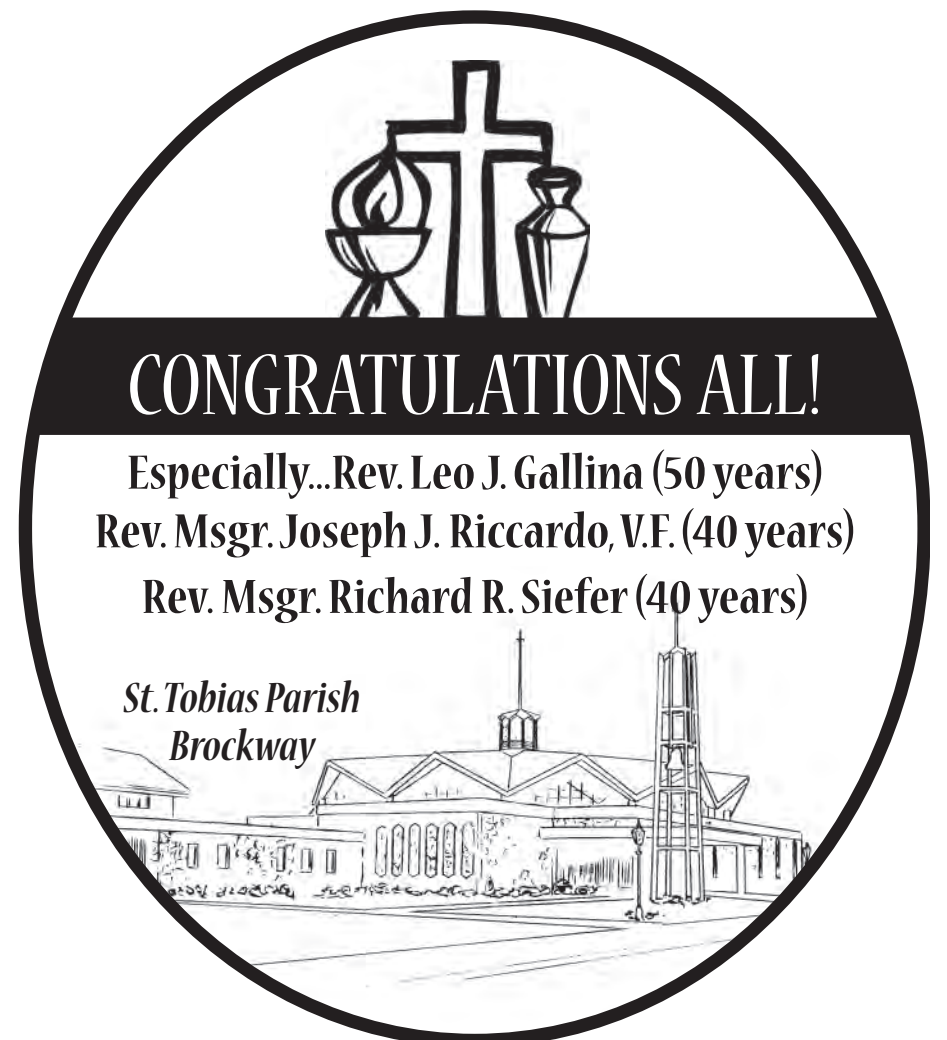
- Priests’ Personnel Board
- Presbyteral Council
- Clergy Continuing Education

FACULTY

- Bradford Central Christian High School, Bradford
- Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys

CAMPUS MINISTER

- University of Pitt-Titusville, Immaculate Conception, Mageetown



Rev. Alfred S. Patterson, OSB • 25 YEARS

my inspiration...
"WWPFD?"

What would Pope Francis do?"

Alfred Patterson was a licensed aircraft mechanic fully ensconced in his career with the U.S. Air Force when he became aware of the drastic decline in seminarians.

"I asked myself, 'Why can't Catholics take care of their own church?' Father Patterson says. 'Then it occurred to me, dramatically, 'You are still single. Why can't you become a priest?'"

All of the reasons he previously used to not become a priest melted away because, as he says, "I had, at 21, matured into a confident young adult."

Raised in Utica, N.Y., he entered Saint Vincent College and Seminary in Latrobe in 1982. He earned a bachelor's degree and later a master's at Saint Vincent. He made simple profession of monastic vows on July 10, 1986, and solemn profession on July 11, 1989. He was ordained a priest on June 2, 1990, at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica.

Father Patterson isn't the only priest in the family, though. His uncle, Father John Waldron, is a parish priest in the Diocese of Albany, N.Y.

"Every family should have a priest," Father Patterson says.

For Father Patterson, the most vital issues facing the Catholic Church today are abortion, evangelization and proper catechesis. He hopes that Catholics increasingly turn to their Catholicism for spiritual growth and knowledge.

"Pray, pray every day, especially the Lord's Prayer," Father Patterson says. "Reflection in our lives helps us understand God's grace, but reflection is a crucial part of our humanity."

Celebrating his 25th anniversary as a priest this year, Father Patterson is inspired by the bread and wine offered at daily Mass.

"The most common food and drink available are used for everyone worldwide. No barrier exists for those who seek unity with God the Son, the Father, and the Holy Spirit," he explains.

Since July 2014, Father Patterson has been serving as pastor of St. Mary's Parish, St. Marys. He also currently is chaplain at Elk Regional Health Center in St. Marys.

From 2013-14, he was parochial vicar at both St. Mary's and Sacred Heart parishes in St. Marys. He served St. Mary's as a parochial vicar once before, from 1995 to 2002.

Outside the Diocese of Erie, he was a pastor in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, a hospital chaplain and a parochial vicar in the Diocese of Greensburg, and a teacher at the Benedictine Priory and Military School in Savannah, Ga.



biography...

PASTOR (CURRENT)

- St. Mary's Parish, St. Marys

CHAPLAIN (CURRENT)

- Elk Regional Health Center, St. Marys

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- Sacred Heart Parish, St. Marys
- St. Mary's Parish, St. Marys

OUTSIDE THE DIOCESE

- Pastor, St. John Parish, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
- Chaplain, Westmoreland Hospital, Diocese of Greensburg
- Parochial Vicar, Sacred Heart Parish, Diocese of Greensburg
- Teacher, Benedictine Priory and Military School, Savannah, Ga.



Congratulations, Deacon Tom McAraw!
All Saints Parish, Waterford

PRAY FOR PRIESTS CALENDAR

A MONTHLY CALENDAR — PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DIOCESAN PRIESTS

11 Rev. Msgr. David A. Rubino	12 Rev. Msgr. Richard R. Siefer	13 Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Sullivan
18 Rev. Mark A. Hoffman	19 Rev. Robert A. Manning	20 Rev. Philip M. Oriole

www.ErieRCD.org/pdf/pfp.pdf



CONGRATULATIONS
TO DEACONS MICHAEL DITTMAN
AND RAYMOND SOBINA.

FROM YOUR PARISH FAMILY OF
ST. MARY/ST. ANN



ST. MARY, CROWN



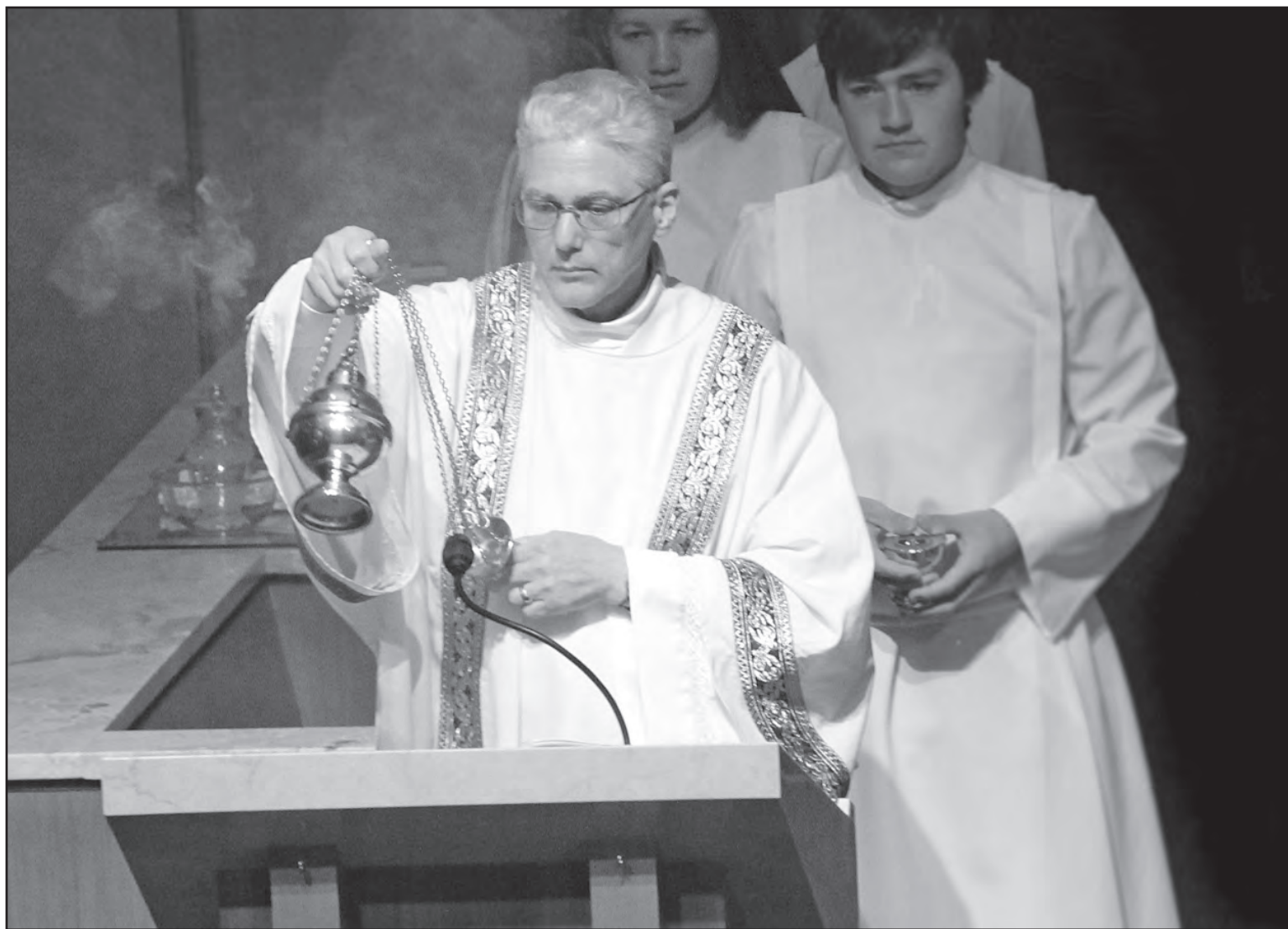
ST. ANN, MARIENVILLE

Congratulations, Deacon Ed Horneman

*ordained May 29, 2015
to the permanent diaconate!*

Thank you for answering God's call to be a servant in Christ.

With eternal love and support,
your wife, Diane, Fr. Matt Kujawinski,
and your Saint Mary of Grace parish family



Largest class of permanent deacons ordained

This year's class of permanent deacons is the largest in the history of the Diocese of Erie.

Ranging in age from 47 to 67, the 14 men ordained permanent deacons on May 29 have worked or currently are working in professions as varied as crimi-

nal justice, education, sales, law, business and nursing.

Bishop Lawrence Persico presided at their ordination Mass at St. Peter Cathedral in downtown Erie.



more diaconate information...



www.ErieRCD.org/diaconate.asp

The 14 members of the 2015 permanent diaconate class of the Diocese of Erie posed on the altar of St. Peter Cathedral after their ordination May 29. Standing with them are Bishop Lawrence Persico, center, and Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman, upper right.

(PHOTO BY MARY SOLBERG)



Deacon Paul Bauman

FAMILY • Wife, Mary; seven children and 18 grandchildren

ASSIGNMENT • St. Catherine of Siena Parish, DuBois

INSPIRATION • "We know that in all things **God works for good** with those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose." —*Romans 8:28*



Deacon Michael Dittman

FAMILY • Wife, Heather; one child

ASSIGNMENT • St. Mary Parish, Crown, and St. Ann Mission Church, Marienville; chaplain ministry, State Correctional Institution-Forest, Marienville

INSPIRATION • "Be still and **know that I am God.**" —*Psalms 46:10*



Deacon Nicholas Cirell

FAMILY • Wife, Elisa; two children and one grandchild

ASSIGNMENT • St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Emlenton; Prince of Peace Center, Farrell

INSPIRATION • "Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, Son of John, do you love me?' Peter answered, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, '**Feed my sheep.**'" —*John 21:15-19*



Deacon Stephen Frezza

FAMILY • Wife, Margaret; five children

ASSIGNMENT • St. George Parish, Erie; campus ministry, Pennsylvania State University, Behrend Campus

INSPIRATION • "God has created me to do him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another. ...I shall do good; **I shall do his work.** I shall be an angel of peace..." —*Blessed John Henry Newman*



Deacon Edward Horneman
FAMILY • Wife, Diane; two children
ASSIGNMENT • St. Mary of Grace Parish, Meadville; campus ministry, Allegheny College, Meadville
INSPIRATION • “Be still and **know that I am God.**” —Psalm 46:10



Deacon Stephen Rowan
FAMILY • Wife, Ruth; three children and two grandchildren
ASSIGNMENT • Immaculate Conception Parish, Brookville, and St. Dominic Mission Church, Sigel
INSPIRATION • “You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped; you were too strong for me and you triumphed...I say to myself I will not mention him, I will speak his name no more. But then it becomes a **fire burning in my heart...**”
 —Jeremiah 20:7-10



Deacon Frank Luciani
FAMILY • Wife, Tia; six children and six grandchildren
ASSIGNMENT • St. Michael Parish, Greenville; campus ministry, Thiel College, Greenville
INSPIRATION • “If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong and a clashing cymbal...So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but **the greatest of these is love.**”
 —1 Corinthians 13: 1-13



Deacon Raymond Sobina
FAMILY • Wife, Deb; two children
ASSIGNMENT • St. Peter Cathedral Parish, Erie
INSPIRATION • **The Prodigal Son**
 —Luke 15:11-32



Deacon Thomas McAraw
FAMILY • Wife, Pam; three children
ASSIGNMENT • All Saints Parish, Waterford; chaplain ministry, State Correctional Institution-Albion
INSPIRATION • “Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: **rejoice!** Your kindness should be known to all... Then the God of peace will be with you.”
 —Philippians 4:4-9



Deacon Todd Sommers
FAMILY • Wife, Julianne; two children
ASSIGNMENT • St. Brigid Parish, Meadville
INSPIRATION • “I have been crucified with Christ; yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me; insofar as I now live in the flesh, I **live by faith in the Son of God** who has loved me and given himself up for me.”
 —Galatians 2:19-20



Deacon James Moss
FAMILY • Wife, Jeanne; two children
ASSIGNMENT • St. Mark Parish, Lawrence Park
INSPIRATION • “**God is love.**” —1 John 4:8



Deacon Robert Wilson
FAMILY • Wife, Sally; three children and five grandchildren
ASSIGNMENT • St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Clearfield
INSPIRATION • “Elijah didn’t run away from God; he ran toward God. God comforted him and strengthened him and God will comfort and strengthen us if we **turn to him in prayer.**” —Based on 1 Kings:18-19



Deacon David Romanowicz
FAMILY • Single
ASSIGNMENT • Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Edinboro; chaplain ministry, Erie County Prison
INSPIRATION • “So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; **we have only done our duty.**’” —Luke 17:10



Deacon Richard Winschel
FAMILY • Wife, Rosemary; two children and four grandchildren
ASSIGNMENT • St. Gregory Parish, North East; campus ministry, Mercyhurst University, North East Campus
INSPIRATION • “Because of **God’s great mercy** to us, I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God...Let your hope keep you joyful...” —Romans 12:1-12



*"Believe what you read,
Teach what you believe,
Live what you teach."*



Congratulations on answering God's call, Deacon McArw!

All our love,
Your mom, children, grandchildren and wife, Pam

"Be still and know that I am
God! I am exalted among the
nations, exalted on the earth."

Psalms 46:11

Grandpa,
You give us so much to think
about and learn about God.

Thank You,
Katelynn, Samuel, Kaylee and Aidan

Dad,
You have always shown us the way
and now we gladly share you with all.
We are so proud of your hard work.

Love and prayers,
Sean and LeeAnn, Mike and Courtney, Dan and Tegan

'The Spirit of God will work mightily in and through you...'

Rev. Thomas N. Trocchio • NEWLY ORDAINED

my inspiration...

"Let it be done according to your will." —Luke 1:38

Many priests of the Diocese of Erie gathered at St. Peter Cathedral June 5 to help celebrate the ordination of 32-year-old Thomas Trocchio. Most of the clergymen present had once knelt on the same altar, committing themselves to a life of service.

One after one, each priest placed his hands on Father Trocchio's head, blessing him in his new ministry. Ordained that evening by Bishop Lawrence Persico, Father Trocchio's childhood wish came true.

"As a young kid, he always wanted to play a priest. It's surreal. He's worked so hard for this and now it's here," says Father Trocchio's half-sister, Dana Caldoro. "I guess now I'll have to call him 'Father.'"

Caldoro attended the ordination along with her 7-year-old son, Cameron, and several other members of Father Trocchio's family, including his grandmother, Marga Deer, and his aunt, Cindy Caldoro, whom he once told, "I want to serve the people of God."

Father Trocchio already has begun his first assignment as parochial vicar at St. Luke Parish in Erie. Bishop Persico announced the appointment during the ordination Mass, saying during a reflection, "Make no mistake about it, Tom, the Spirit of God will work mightily in and through you in spite of your own frailties and in ways far beyond your imagining."

Father Trocchio is ready for the challenge.

"I look forward—wherever I am—to meeting people and asking them, 'How can I help you?'" Father Trocchio says. "I'm also excited about celebrating Mass. That's what I'm most excited about: bringing the Eucharist to

the people."

According to Father Trocchio, whose home parish is St. Patrick in Franklin, the power of the Holy Spirit brought him to ordination. Growing up in Plum Borough, outside of Pittsburgh, he was baptized Lutheran. After his mother died when he was only 6, he lived with his father and grandfather.

Increasingly, he became interested in the Catholic faith through members of his family who were Catholic or who were married to Catholics. So, at about age 14, he asked his father if he could convert. He was welcomed into the Catholic Church that same year.

The journey to the priesthood was a circuitous one for Father Trocchio. Despite feeling called to the religious life, he put it off and enrolled at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania at the encouragement of his family. While at Edinboro, he became involved in the Newman Center and its campus ministry program affiliated with Our Lady of the Lake Parish. In his junior year, while attending a weeklong silent retreat, he was moved to take "the leap" to the seminary.

He enrolled at St. Mark Seminary and finished his degree at Gannon University. He then began studies at Saint Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, but took a year off to do a pastoral experience at St. Joseph Parish in Warren.

Putting his studies into action convinced him to commit to the priesthood. The guy who friends called "Church Tom" would finally become "Father Tom." Last May, he graduated from Saint Vincent with a master of divinity degree.

"I'm very happy," Father Trocchio says. "I've said this before when people ask me about my vocation: It's the best decision that God has ever made for me."



INSET: Bishop Lawrence Persico places his hands on Tom Trocchio in the rite of presbyteral ordination. ABOVE: Father Trocchio gathers with his family at St. Peter Cathedral Center following his ordination. Pictured, from left, are: his half-sister, Dana Caldoro; his grandmother, Marga Deer; his nephew, Cameron; and his aunt, Cindy Caldoro. (PHOTOS BY MARY SOLBERG)



Father Tom Trocchio's German grandmother taught him the following prayer.

He still prays it every night.

*"I am small, but my heart is pure.
Jesus, I love you, keep my heart secure."*

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

Rev. Thomas N. Trocchio, Newly ordained • Rev. Thomas Aleksa, 40 years
Msgr. Daniel Arnold, 40 years • Rev. John Bauer, 50 years
Rev. Joseph Gregorek, Home parish • Deacon James Moss, Newly ordained

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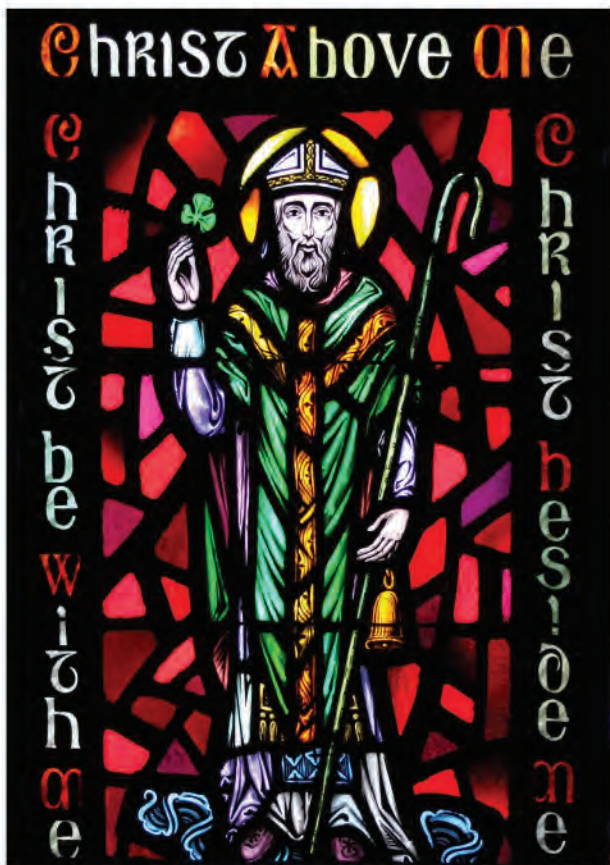


Photo courtesy of Jim Ellis, Franklin, PA

St. Patrick Parish

Franklin, Pa.

Congratulates and offers prayers for:

Msgr. Ernest J. Daley
60 years of priestly ordination

Fr. Mark A. Hoffman
25 years of priestly ordination

Fr. Thomas N. Trocchio
Newly ordained priest of the Diocese of Erie

"Well done, good and faithful servants!"

*"We give thanks
to God any time we think of you."*

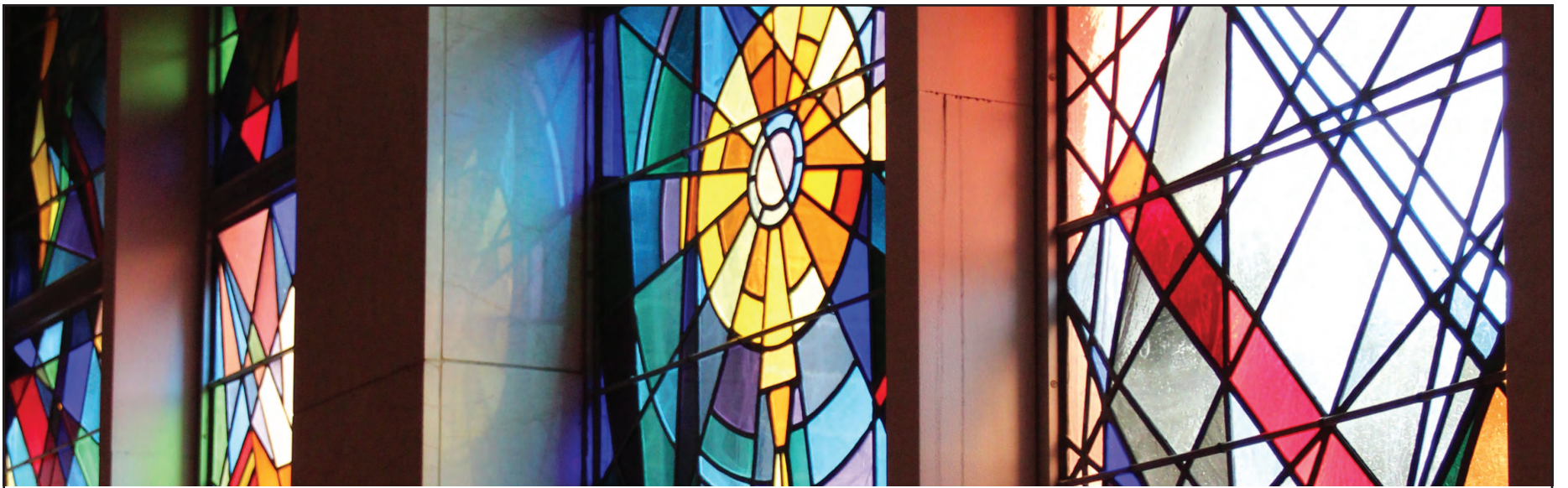
—St. Paul

The Church of the Beloved Disciple, Grove City,
offers a warm prayer of gratitude
to former pastors
Msgr. Ernest Daley and Fr. Mark Hoffman,
and former parochial vicar Fr. Jim Gutting.



**Church of the
Beloved Disciple**

We, the Church of the Beloved Disciple, are called by our baptism to worship God through liturgy and the sacraments, to serve others by ministering to the community and to actively spread the Gospel.



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Msgr. Joseph Riccardo,
Our best wishes to you on your
40th anniversary of priesthood!

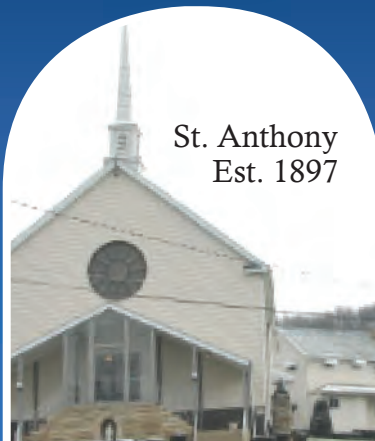
PRAYER FOR A PASTOR

*May God daily fill your life with blessings without end,
for you are more than just a pastor...
You are our brother and our friend.*

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St. Anthony
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