

SAID ED June 30, 2013

Today I begin my 30th year

As you know from the TV and news reports and the Catholic Courier, last weekend we celebrated the ordination of three priests for the Diocese of Rochester. This is the beginning of a new influx of priestly leaders for our future. It is a blessing to all of us and I thank you for your prayers for vocations; they're working! Fr. Peter Mottola who spent a summer with us as a seminarian a few years ago will be serving in nearby Canandaigua as his first priestly assignment. Please keep all our new priests in your prayers!

Also last Sunday at 8:30am we had the privilege of hosting newly ordained Fr. Scott VanDerveer as he celebrated his Mass of Thanks giving in our community. Scott is a priest of the Diocese of Albany whose Mom and Dad belong to us. You may have recognized him as he has visited us many times through his years of formation. Scott told me that he used to come to 6:45am Mass when Fr. Ed Golden was Pastor. He was a senior in FSH then and he felt attraction to the priesthood beginning to grow in his heart. His Mass of Thanksgiving with us was a delightful experience, congratulations to him.

This weekend I begin my thirtieth year as your Pastor. This is the longest I have served in any single parish and I expect it will be a year filled with excitement and new experience. It is a very great joy to be part of people's faith journey in good times and in difficult ones. Recently I baptized the baby of a couple who were in our youth group when I first arrived here in 2001. It is such a privilege to serve here and to collaborate with you in the building up of God's Reign in our midst. Later on this summer, I'll give you some facts and figures about our parish which I have been collecting over the years. They tell the wonderful story of our parish life! Thank you for your gracious support and loving collaboration as together we build God's community of faith here in Fairport.

Staff will be coming and going on vacations for many weeks of this summer as I know many of you will. Please be patient with us as we try to response to your needs and offers to serve. And please drive carefully and be safe as you travel about the country - and maybe even the world. I hope that summer is a time of refreshment and renewal for all of us.

Have a great week!
