



From the Pastor's Desk

From the stable in Bethlehem they grew through good times and bad, sickness and health, they loved and honored each other all the days of their lives and into eternity.

Guided by angels, in visions and dreams they lived in hope and the promise of God that their lives and that of their child would change the very substance of creation. And so it did! The lives of Mary and Joseph and certainly that of Jesus have brought great joy to all the people, to men and women of good will.

As I write this, I have before me a list of five couples who will be celebrating 25 and 50 years of marriage. This Sunday, December 26th we are honoring these wonderful couples who have reached mile-stones of marriage. Congratulations go out to the following couples:

Patty and Lee Kraus – 50 years of marriage
Connie and Walter Borowicz – 50 years of marriage
Betty and Jerry Cunningham – 50 years of marriage
Janice and Jim Barthelme – 25 years of marriage
Karen and Doug Mandart – 25 years of marriage

We all agree how wonderful it is to see couple reach these milestones and we know they deserve congratulations because they did not reach this point in their lives without working each day at developing the depth of their love. Time and circumstances have, I am sure, brought their vows to life, "for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health....". Loving one another, as Mary and Joseph did; trusting in God all along their journey of life, being there for the children, like Mary and Joseph were for Jesus; thus, allowing God to become the center of their lives, in and through Jesus.



Congratulations to all of you and to all couples in our parish who are celebrating milestone years of marriage amongst our parishioners or perhaps visiting family or reading this on our webpage. On behalf of myself and all the priests and deacons here at OLPH ... May you have many more happy years together and may Christ continue to +bless you with fullness of Love, Faith, Trust, Joy, Peace and Health so that you may continue to reveal to all who meet you, the Holy Family, God ordained you to be in this world.



Christian Wedding Prayer

Lord Jesus, grant that I and my spouse may have a true and understanding love for each other. Grant that we may both be filled with faith and trust. Give us the grace to live with each other in peace and harmony. May we always bear with one another's weaknesses and grow from each other's strengths. Help us to forgive one another's failings and grant us patience, kindness, cheerfulness and the spirit of placing the well-being of one another ahead of self. May the love that brought us together grow and mature with each passing year. Bring us both ever closer to You through our love for each other. Let our love grow to perfection. Amen.

May God +bless you and yours today and forever.

Father Anthony