

TOGETHER

a monthly bulletin insert from the archdiocese



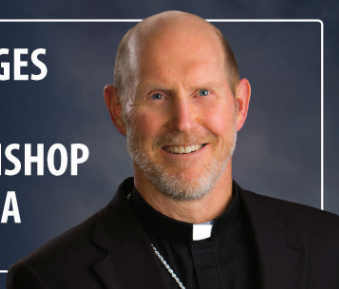
ARCHDIOCESE
of DUBUQUE

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MESSAGES FROM ARCHBISHOP ZINKULA



"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world.

A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."

Mt 5:13-15

BE THE LIGHT

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As faithful communities of salt and light, we are called to stand as beacons of hope to those facing adversity, serving as a testament to the boundless grace of God working through us as a gift to one another and the world.

This year, our annual fundraising appeal at Catholic Charities bears a special theme - "Be the Light." Drawing inspiration from the enduring message of faith and compassion found in the Gospel of Matthew, we invite you to join us in illuminating the lives of those most vulnerable in our community.

The critical work of Catholic Charities, firmly rooted in Catholic Social Teachings, brings together the sanctity of family, community, and the dignity of the human person. These principles are the foundation of our moral

vision for society. They are based on our recognition that each person is created in the image and likeness of God. Embracing the call to love one another, we also bear the responsibility of ensuring universal access to the common good, enabling every person not only to survive but to thrive.

Let us not forget that it is the collective radiance of our individual lights that weaves a vibrant tapestry of compassion and love. Thank you for your generous commitment to our annual appeal and all the ways you are sharing the light of Christ throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque. I am grateful for your continued benevolence.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Thomas R. Zinkula
Archbishop of Dubuque



The Catholic Charities Annual Appeal kicked off the weekend of February 10-11, 2024. Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque truly relies on your partnership, support, and promotion of this appeal to continue providing the critical services they provide each year.

Make your gift today at <http://www.catholiccharitiesdubuque.org/donate>.

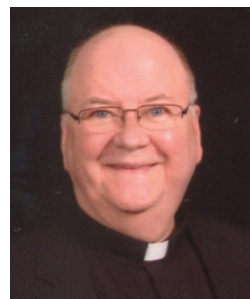
A LEGACY OF SERVICE:

RETIRED PRIESTS' JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



By Cassie Bird

Meet Fr. Louis Jaeger and Fr. Bernard Grady, who celebrated jubilee years in 2023.



Rev. Louis Jaeger was ordained a priest on March 31, 1973 and celebrated his Golden Jubilee in the year of 2023. A celebration of this anniversary

was held at St. Mary's Parish in Manchester with a Mass and reception this past spring.

1. What are aspects of your active priestly duties that you miss?

The aspect that I miss most of active ministry is dealing with people. There are some really great people in the Church and I miss dealing with them. When I was pastor I enjoyed doing visioning for schools or parishes. I liked hearing other people's ideas.

2. As you celebrate this golden anniversary, what reflections do you have on the impact of your priesthood on both yourself and the communities you served?

The biggest impact on me was through

prayer getting closer to God and realizing why God put me places. As for impact on the communities? You would have to ask the people.

3. How has your perspective on the role of a priest evolved since the time of your ordination to your retirement?

The role of priest has changed from visiting people, celebrating sacraments, etc. to more of a collaborative ministry with active participation of the laity.

Rev. Bernard Grady was ordained a priest on June 1, 1968 and celebrated his 55-year jubilee in 2023.

1. Looking back on your years of active ministry, what are some of the most fulfilling and rewarding aspects that you experienced?

For the most part, I was privileged and blessed to work with wonderful parish staff members and serve wonderful parish members: 1968-1972 as an



Assistant at St. Joseph in Marion; 1972-1977 as an Associate in Team Ministry at Immaculate Conception in Charles City and St. Mary, Roseville; 1986-1993 as Pastor at Blessed Sacrament, Waterloo; 1999-2005 as Pastor at Saint Mary, Marshalltown; and 2005-2012 as Pastor at Saint Patrick, Hampton and Saint Mary, Ackley.

For some 25 years, our Archdiocese staffed and supported a large parish in Cochabamba, Bolivia, "La Parroquia de San Rafael". I volunteered and served on the parish staff from 1977 to 1986. Due to the shortage of priests back here, the parish was then turned over to the local Archdiocese in Bolivia. From 1993 to 1998, I was permitted to be an Associate member of the Society of Saint

Columban, an Irish Missionary Group, and served as Pastor of a Columban Parish on the outskirts of Lima, Peru. During these early years after the Second Vatican Council, the "Basic Christian Community" movement was especially popular in parishes in South America, and served to form small communities within parishes and encourage leadership among the laity.

2. Besides the ways that you still live out your ministry as a retired priest, how do you spend your time in retirement?

In retirement, I have owned a home in Marshalltown for the past eleven years and have enjoyed my hobby of woodworking. My brother Pete and sister-in-law Jeannine have lived in Marshalltown for many years, and I enjoy their presence and support in many ways. I served for a time delivering Meals on Wheels, and continue to enjoy volunteering at the Emergency Food Box. Age is now taking its toll, but Pete and Jeannine and parish members and neighbors are ready and willing to offer a helping hand whenever I have a need. I also enjoy contacts via visits, phone calls, emails and letters from other family members, classmates, and members of the parishes I have served over the years.

3. As you celebrated your 55th jubilee in 2023, what reflections did you have on the impact of your priesthood on both yourself and the communities you served?

During the Christmas season, I received several greetings from classes and individual students of many of the schools and parishes of our Archdiocese. Many of them thanked me for being a priest. In my response to them, I pointed out that God must be calling some from among them to the priesthood and religious life. I ended each of my replies with: GO FOR IT!!!!

2024 RETIRED JUBILARIANS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

Rev. John Kremer - 65 years
Rev. Philip Recker - 65 years
Rev. Wayne Droessler - 55 years
Rev. Joseph Schneider - 50 years
(Golden Jubilarian)
Rev. Stephen Meyer - 45 years
Rev. Dennis Cain - 45 years
Rev. Alexander Wild - 35 years
Rev. William Cosgrove - 25 years

2023 RETIRED JUBILARIANS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

Rev. Msgr. Donald Hawes - 70 years
Rev. Msgr. Dean Walz - 70 years
Rev. George Karnik - 65 years
Rev. Ardel Barta - 60 years
Rev. Bernard Grady - 55 years
Rev. Louis Jaeger - 50 years
(Golden Jubilarian)
Rev. Dennis Juhl - 50 years
(Golden Jubilarian)
Rev. Philip Thompson - 45 years
Rev. Michael Mescher - 40 years

Your generous support for priest retirement and the Priest Pension Plan are vital to supporting the Archdioceses' retired priests, who have dedicated their lives in service to God and the Church.

Thanks to the sacrificial gifts of so many, over \$2.4 million has been restricted to Priest Retirement through the ArchdioceseOne special appeal.

There is still a great need to support Priest Retirement, as the goal of \$15 million was not met and the Pension Plan remains underfunded.

If you have completed your ArchdioceseOne pledge, or made a one-time gift, and are in the position to give more, we would greatly appreciate your consideration of continued support for this ministry.

Gifts can be made online at www.archdioceseone.org/support, or mailed to ArchdioceseOne, 1229 Mt. Loretta Ave, Dubuque, IA 52003.