

A New Chapter Begins for Father Brian McNally

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In May of this year, Father Brian McNally, the well-loved pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Perth, marked his 50th anniversary of priestly ordination. Since the pandemic derailed the parish's plans to honour him with a special celebration, I thought it would be appropriate to highlight in this issue of Journey Father McNally's years of service and valuable contribution to the Archdiocese of Kingston.

Father McNally's first assignment after ordination in 1970 was as Associate Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Perth, which was close to his family's farm in Newboro. After three years in Perth, he became Associate Pastor at St. Mary's Cathedral in Kingston, where he served for 15 years. In 1988, he was appointed Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Lanark. Five years later, in 1993, he became Pastor of St. Francis de Sales Parish in Smiths Falls, where he served for nine years. In 2002, he was appointed Pastor of St. Peter-in-Chains Parish in Trenton. For the next 10 years, he worked tirelessly, not only for the parishioners in Trenton, but also for all the people and parishes of the Western Deanery when he was appointed their Dean. He also served the Archdiocese well as a member of the Council of Priests, the College of Consultors, and the Personnel Committee. Father McNally returned to St. John the Baptist Parish in Perth in July 2010, where he faithfully served as Pastor and as Dean of the Northern Deanery for the next 10 years. During his time in Perth, he continued to serve the Archdiocese on the Council of Priests, College of Consultors, and the Personnel Committee, and he worked diligently for the Catholic Women's League of the Archdiocese as its Spiritual Advisor.

For the last 50 years, Father McNally has been a valued member of the presbyterate in the Archdiocese of Kingston. In October, at the age of 75, he took a well-deserved retirement and began a new chapter in his life. He will be greatly missed, not only by his parishioners, but also by our staff at the Pastoral Centre. He has always been so kind, considerate, and cooperative, and we looked forward to his frequent visits with us. The family farm in Newboro, which has raised generations of the McNally family since 1832, will now be his home. It is not so very far away from Kingston, and we hope that Father McNally will continue bringing his Irish cheer to our office for many years to come.