October 13, 2016

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Welcome to our third annual gala celebration of the diocesan priesthood in the Diocese of Worcester!

Our committee is excited about sharing a new venue and format for the evening. Allow me this opportunity to offer my sincere thanks to St. Vincent Hospital for extending the use of this beautiful Atrium for “Tastes of the Diocese.” I also offer my thanks to the many restauranteurs, parishes, vineyards and our Trappist brothers in Christ from St. Joseph Abbey in Spencer as they all share their delectable treats with us this evening.

We are here to celebrate the contributions that so many priests, both active and retired, have made in our lives and to the Diocese of Worcester. Our priests inspire us with a message that transcends history, a message of redemption through the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ for each of us. By their actions, their words and their commitment to the vocation of the priesthood, our priests have responded to a call to bring Jesus Christ into each of our lives.

As we share in fellowship tonight, it is appropriate to recall that, just like the medical professionals who bring healing and hope to the patients of this facility, our priests bring comfort and healing through the sacraments to those of us in need of God’s grace, in good times and in bad. Priests have been and will continue to be integral to the life of all Catholics.

As you know, proceeds from tonight’s event benefit the Priests’ Retirement Fund, which, in recent years, has faced on average a $1 million deficit annually. On behalf of our committee, which worked diligently to bring this night to fruition, I thank all of you for your participation and your willingness to help us raise needed funds for priests’ retirement care. I am confident that each of you joins with me in thanking our priests and in wanting to assure that we provide for their well-deserved care in their senior years.

I also wish to offer a special thank you to our sponsors who are all listed in this program, along with the many advertisers and the donors who could not be with us tonight. Their generosity was key to tonight’s successful results.

May this evening’s tribute be a testimony to the love and devotion we share for our priests. Let us raise our voices in prayerful gratitude to Almighty God for the gift of the priesthood which he has bestowed on us as a community of faith.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.
Bishop of Worcester

Celebrate Priesthood • October 13, 2016 3
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Celebrate Priesthood!

Thursday, October 13, 2016 - St. Vincent Hospital Atrium, Worcester

A Benefit Evening to recognize diocesan priests and support the Clergy Retirement Fund.

PROGRAM

Food and refreshments available throughout the evening

Welcome 5:30
Raymond Delisle
Chancellor

Invocation
Fr. Charles Dumphry
Ordained May 19, 1955

Interviews throughout the evening will be projected LIVE
every 20 minutes beginning at 6:00 pm

Musical performances
Marie Pascal Duplan
Haitian Ministry of the Diocese of Worcester

Reflections 7:15
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

In Memoriam
All priests are invited to join Bishop McManus
in singing the Salve Regina

Benediction
### Table 1

struckcatering.com
Scallops in Filo with saffron cream

### Table 2

Lock50.com

### Table 3

Red Wine
and selections donated by Dr. Michael Burns

### Table 4

White Wine
Wicked Whites and selections donated by Dr. Michael Burns

### Table 5

www.oconnorsrestaurant.com

### Table 6

www.spencerabbey.org
Spencer Ales and Lagers see list on page 49

### Table 7

kyotobarandgrill.com
sushi and appetizers

### Table 8

Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish
olcworcester.com
Pierogis and kielbasa
**TASTE OF THE DIOCESE TABLES**

*Food and refreshments available at the table from 5:30 to 7:30 pm*

*Bottled water available at all wine tables*

---

**Table 9**

**Oxford Knights of Columbus**

Fr. Dennis Rocheford Council 4241
Greek meatballs & tzatziki

---

**Table 10**

![Pizzeria Uno](image1.png)

Worcester, MA 01608
variety of pizza tastings

---

**Table 11**

**St. John Paul II Parish**

stjp2parish.org
Hispanic delicacies

---

**Table 12**

![The Crown Bakery & Cafe](image2.png)

crownbakeryandcafe.com/
Desserts

---

**Table 13**

![Pranzi Catering & Events](image3.png)

pranzi.com
Gourmet Cookies

---

**Table 14**

**St. Cecilia Parish**

stceciliachurch.net
French Meat Pie

---

**Table 15**

![Scott Toupin Catering](image4.png)

ScottToupinCatering.com
Tangy Cocktail meatballs

---

**Table 16**

![Polar Beverages](image5.png)

polarbev.com
seltzers

---
# TASTE OF THE DIOCESE TABLES

*Food and refreshments available at the table from 5:30 to 7:30 pm
Bottled water available at all wine tables*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 17</th>
<th>Table 22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **BAY PATH**
Regional Vocational Technical High School
baypath.tec.ma.us
Lollipop Lamb chops
| **Figs & Pigs**
Kitchen + Pantry
figsandpigskitchen.com
Tastings |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 18</th>
<th>Table 23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Table 18**
Red Wine  |
| **Hanna Devine's**
RESTAURANT & BAR
hannadevines.com/
Lobster Mac & Cheese, chowder,
and sausage with peppers |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 19</th>
<th>Table 20</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **Table 19**
White Wine  |
| St. Anthony of Padua, Fitchburg
stanthonyfitchburg.net
Calzone |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 20</th>
<th>Table 21</th>
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</table>
| **Table 20**
St. Anthony of Padua, Fitchburg
stanthonyfitchburg.net
Calzone  |
| **Table 21**
gardenfreshcatering.com
Cheese selections & crudites |
THE ONGOING NEED IN THE RETIRED PRIESTS’ FUND

Have you ever faced the need to care for an elderly family member? You know first-hand how costs can add up when dealing with medical bills, assistance in living and many other issues, even before facing skilled nursing home care!

In the Diocese of Worcester, the customary retirement age for diocesan clergy is 75 years of age. On average, there are more than 60 retired priests in our diocese who are cared for by our Diocese following many decades of service to the Catholic community in our parishes and other diocesan ministries.

For more than five years in a row, the cost of Retired Priests Care has exceeded available resources by an average of $1 million per year. While a committee has been working on reducing expenses without sacrificing quality of care, the need for more funds will continue to outpace the current sources without the added assistance of individuals like you.

Many people have wondered how this initiative relates to the Retirement Fund for Religious Collection which has been taken up in the month of December for more than 20 years. That national collection is used exclusively to assist vowed religious communities (sisters, brothers and religious order priests) who faced crippling retirement costs for the elderly and frail members of their communities. Canonically they operate their finances separately from the dioceses in which they served or are still serving.

Join us in Celebrating the Gift of Priesthood throughout the year!

The gift of the priesthood is more than a personal vocation to which each priest is called. It is a gift to the community of faith. We are never without the sacramental graces conferred on each of us, thanks to the presence of a priest.

We invite you to consider ways in which you can show gratitude for the priests who have made a difference in your life as we face the financial challenge of caring for our retired priests.

Make a gift to the Retired Priests’ Fund at any time during the year to honor a priest who helped you or your family, and have it listed on an online Memorial Wall. Visit worcesterdiocese.org/celebrate-priesthood.

Make a Legacy Gift to the Retired Priests’ Fund in your planning so that you make a long-term difference in the care of our retired priests. Visit worcesterdiocese.plannedgiving.org.
May God bless our senior priests, retired bishops and priests

Retired Bishops

Most Reverend
Daniel P. Reilly,
Bishop Emeritus,
Worcester

Most Reverend
George E. Rueger,
Retired Auxiliary Bishop,
Worcester

James F. Carmody, Shrewsbury
George A. Charland, East Brookfield
William N. Cormier, South Yarmouth
Andre E. Dargis, Scottsdale, AZ
Ronald E. Debitetto, Hyannis
Martin P. Donahue, Spencer
Henry A. Donoghue, Worcester
Charles J. Dumphy, Shrewsbury
George A. Dunkley, California
Charles J. Duram, Dudley
John A. Dwyer, Lowell
Thomas F. Egan, Worcester
Thomas B. Fleming, Worcester
Richard A. Fortin, Leicester
David B. Galonek, Shrewsbury

Senior Priests

Reverend
Paul T. O'Connell, Shrewsbury
J. Normand Tremblay,
Charlton City

Retired Priests

Reverend Monsignor
Richard E. Collette, Shrewsbury
John E. Doran, Oxford
F. Gilles Roy, Worcester

Reverend
Charles R. Armey, Shrewsbury
Michael P. Bafaro, Worcester
Henry S. Banach, Auburn
Joseph R. Bielonko, Webster
Charles E. Borowski, Webster
Paul F. Campbell, Cherry Valley

Robert E. Gariepy, Shrewsbury
Andre M. Gariepy, Shrewsbury
Louis J. Gould, Fitchburg
Bernard J. Grochowski,
Woodstock Valley, CT
John E. Horgan, Shrewsbury
James F. Hoey, Shrewsbury
Robert E. Kelley, Worcester
Richard H. Labonte, Worcester
C. Romeo Lamothe, Shrewsbury
Theodore R. Laperle, Fitchburg
Richard P. Lewandowski,
Fitchburg
Thomas E. Mahoney, North Oxford
Joseph W. McKiernan, Shrewsbury

- St. John Vianney
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Edward J. Moran, Shrewsbury
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Conrad S. Pecewich, Westborough
Andre N. Remillard, Worcester
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Robert M. Spellman, Shrewsbury
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May God continue
to send us good and
holy priests

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Well done, my good and faithful servant...  
Come, share your Master’s joy.  

MATTHEW 25:23

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In gratitude for the ministry of our pastors:  
**Rev. Wilfrid Balthasard**  
1900-1914  
**Rev. Joseph E. Chicoine**  
1914-1948  
**Rev. Joseph H. Boutin**  
1949-1950  
**Rev. Msgr. Arthur J. Gravel**  
1950-1968  
**Rev. Gerard A. Lucier**  
1968-1976  
**Rev. Msgr. George E. Denomme**  
1976-1992  
**Rev. Msgr. Francis T. Goguen**  
1992-2013

and the Associate Pastors who served our parish community in generosity and love.
God Bless all our Diocesan Priests who have guided us along the journey of life including Fr. Paul O'Connell, our beloved uncle.

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"I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Philippians 4:13

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of those serving in parishes and through various ministries in Worcester

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Thank you for the collective ministry of the priests of the Diocese of Worcester. Your devotion to Christ and his Gospel has made our community a better place to live and a better place to prepare for eternal life.

Athy Family
Rev. Msgr. Rocco Piccolomini was born on Dec. 17, 1945, in Leominster, the son of Pietro and Santina (Piermarini) Piccolomini. He attended Julie Country Day School and St. Leo Elementary School in Leominster and graduated from Notre Dame High School, Fitchburg.

He earned a bachelor's degree in Education from Fitchburg State College in 1968. From 1967 to 1975 he was an actor and later associate producer at Eugene S. Cassassa's High Tor Summer Theater.

He taught in the Leominster school system from 1968 to 1970 and again in 1980 and 1981. He taught at Notre Dame High School in Fitchburg from 1972 to 1979 and was headmaster from 1976 to 1978. He taught at University High School in San Diego, Cal., from 1979 to 1980. He also completed graduate study in theater, speech and drama in 1971 at the University of Kansas.

He studied for the priesthood at the Theological College of Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., from 1981 to 1985 and received a Master’s of Divinity degree.

He was ordained a priest on June 8, 1985, by Bishop Harrington in St. Paul Cathedral.

He was named associate pastor of Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Worcester, on June 21, 1985. On Aug. 12, 1988, he was appointed a member of the Priests’ Personnel Board. He served as associate pastor of Holy Angels Parish, Upton, from June 30, 1989, until Feb. 22, 1991, when he was named vicar for priests and administrator of St. John Vianney House.

In 1996 he was chosen by the Columbus Day Parade Committee to be grand marshal of the Columbus Day Parade in Worcester.

He was named secretary to the bishop in February 2001. He was appointed temporary administrator of Our Lady of Loreto in November 2005, while remaining Vicar for Priests. In July of 2006 he began serving as Director of Priest Personnel, while remaining as temporary administrator of Our Lady of Loreto.

He was named pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St. Ann Parish on June 30, 2007, while remaining director of priest personnel before resigning that position on July 1, 2008.

He was named a prelate of honor with the title of monsignor on February 26, 2009, and was invested in Aug. 14, 2009. He retired Oct. 12, 2012.

At the time of his death he had been helping at St. John Parish, Temple Street, Worcester.
Father Frank J. Liistro, Jr., was the son of the late Frank and Stella (Lempek) Liistro, Sr.

He graduated from New Britain High School in 1964 and entered Holy Apostles Seminary in Cromwell, Conn., completing his priestly studies at Christ the King Seminary in Olean, NY.

Father Frank was ordained to the priesthood of Jesus Christ on June 1, 1974.

He served the People of God in the parishes of St. Bernard, Worcester (1974-76); St. Anthony de Padua, Fitchburg (1976-80); Sacred Heart, Webster (1980-81); St. Anna, Leominster (1981-85); Sacred Heart, Gardner (1987-90); St. Anne, Manchaug, as pastor (1990-94); Madonna of the Holy Rosary, Fitchburg, as pastor (1994-2010).

In 2005, he was also appointed pastor of Sacred Heart, Fitchburg, while remaining as pastor of Madonna. He retired in 2010 due to health concerns.

Father Frank had a great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and to St. Francis of Assisi, serving as chaplain to the Secular Franciscans who meet at Madonna of the Holy Rosary Hall. Two of his greatest moments in priesthood were the first of many times he celebrated Mass at the tomb of St. Francis in Assisi and in the Basilica (Santuario) of Our Lady of the Rosary in Pompei, Italy. Father Frank was very proud of his Italian-Polish heritage which he celebrated with many trips to Italy and Poland. He was especially endeared to Our Lady of Czestochowa and to La Madonna del Santo Rosario.

Father Frank was also an expert in the spirituality and history of Russian icons, a subject upon which he gave several lectures in the area.
For they (i.e. priests) who inhabit the earth and make their abode there are entrusted with the administration of things which are in Heaven, and have received an authority which God has not given to angels or archangels.

~ St. John Chrysostom

On the Priesthood

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The Catholic TV Network joins Bishop McManus celebrating the Priests of the Diocese of Worcester

We are grateful for your ministry.
In Memoriam

REV. RICHARD T. CAREY
Ordained: February 13, 1965
Died: February 22, 2016
Years of Priesthood: 51

REV. GEORGE H. HILL
Ordained: May 23, 1968
Died: September 14, 2016
Years of Priesthood: 48

REV. WILLIAM G. O'BRIEN
Ordained: June 24, 1951
Died: April 6, 2016
Years of Priesthood: 64

REV. JOSEPH F. SZWACH
Ordained: May 21, 1955
Died: December 8, 2015
Years of Priesthood: 60
Giving thanks to all of our priests

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Best wishes and prayers to all our priests

Michael Tsotsis
President and Founder

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Thank you!

For all you’ve done over your lifetime.

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gratefully recognizes the commitment and dedication of the priests of the Diocese of Worcester and their service to the people and parishes of Central Massachusetts and wherever Christ's loving presence is needed. Their everyday good works guide and inspire us all.

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In thanksgiving to all the priests who touch our lives with the love of Christ

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With gratitude to all our priests!
Robert & Delphine Pape

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Celebrate Priesthood • October 13, 2016 23
The Faculty, Seminarians, Lay Formation Students, and Staff of Saint John’s Seminary Offer Fervent Prayers and Gratitude To All of our Priests Celebrate Priesthood!

Being good shepherds means “meditating on the Gospel every day to pass its message on through one’s life and preaching.” It also means experiencing God’s mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.” “It is vital to always go to confession so you can become generous and merciful ministers because you will feel God’s mercy upon you, encouraging you to become generous and merciful ministers.” It means feeding on faith and love of the Eucharist in order to provide nourishment to the Christian people.” “It means being men of prayer so as to become the voice of Christ that praises the Father and constantly intercedes for their brothers.” (Pope Francis – April 14, 2014)

Serving the Diocese of Worcester

(L-R) Brian Ashmankas (2 Pre-Theology), Derek Mobilio (1 Pre-Theology), Msgr. James Moroney (Rector, St. John’s Seminary), Lucas LaRoche (2 Pre-Theology) (Missing from the photo is John LaRochele 2 Pre-Theology)
To our retired priests with sincere gratitude for your countless years of service

- From the staff & parishioners of St. George Parish, Worcester

The Parishioners of St. Joseph's in Charlton would like to express their deepest appreciation for their wonderful shepherds and for the gentle and loving way they tend their flock.
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ST. MARY & ST. PHILIP

With gratitude to the priests who
have served our parish communities, we pray that the
Lord will bless you as you have
blessed us.
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- St. John Vianney

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― Saint Pope John Paul II

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In heartfelt appreciation for all the wonderful priests who have been so good to us for so many years

~ Jim Cosgrove

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-Pope Francis

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St. Mary’s Church
Jefferson

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“Dear lay faithful, be close to your priests with affection and with your prayers, that they may always be shepherds according to God’s heart. And pray for those whom God is calling to be priests that they may respond to this call with humility and joy.”

- Pope Francis

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Best wishes as you celebrate priesthood!

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Author: Fr. Karl Rahner

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