

DIOCESAN NEWS

New priest

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homage to Father David Mura, who died in 1995, by using his chalice during the Mass. Father Mura, he said, was the person most responsible with encouraging him toward the priesthood.

Father Marcoux remarked that he may have been more nervous for the Mass of Thanksgiving than his ordination. "It was a little scary; all these people (at St. James) knew me," he said.

But overall, his ordination week glided along. "I was just really relaxed. I was waiting for myself to get nervous, but it never came," Father Marcoux said. He likened his first celebration of a Mass to "a pair of comfortable shoes."

St. James was packed for the Mass of the Thanksgiving — thanks in no small part to Father Marcoux's enormous family, which includes seven siblings. The new priest's sense of humor was evident from the outset. As he processed down the center aisle, flanked by his parents, Father Marcoux drew laughs when he waved to his dad, Leo, to hurry up because he was stopping to greet so many people.

Then, as he led participants in the opening sign of the cross, Father Marcoux implored Mass-goers to say their "Amen" louder: "You can do better than that," he said with a grin. Indeed, a much louder "Amen" rang out.

At one point during his first homily as a priest, Father Marcoux was distracted by a crying baby being carried out of the church. "Sorry," he called to the child.

Yet he quickly turned solemn, reflecting on the day's readings that told of people who struggled with the decision to give up everything and follow God.

"Following can be a fairly risky business," Father Marcoux told the congregation. "What is it that God wants us to do with this gift of life he's given us?" He went on to point out that following God can be found in a variety of vocations: the



Andrea Dixon/Staff photographer
Father Tim Horan, pastor of St. Margaret Mary, Irondequoit, lays his hands on newly ordained Joseph Marcoux. Waiting to do the same are (from left) Father John Gagnier, pastor of St. Dominic's, Shortsville; newly retired Father Tom Watts; Father Lee Chase, pastor of St. Thomas More, Brighton; and Father John Hayes, pastor of St. Joseph's, Livonia.

single life; religious life; married life.

For Father Marcoux, his vocation appears a happy one. He beamed throughout his Mass of Thanksgiving and said he was equally excited about his ordination day. One memorable moment occurred, he said, when Bishop Clark instructed him to turn and face the Sacred Heart congregation June 30.

"To see a sea of people and standing up, clapping their hearts out — it was incredible," Father Marcoux said.

Father Marcoux's parents seem to believe he will merit the applause as he progresses in his priesthood.

"He has a way of expressing himself that puts people in the palm of his hands," Leo Marcoux said during a July 1 reception in the St. James Church hall.

"I feel wonderful — just very, very joyful. I think he's going to give life to the church," his wife, Jennie, commented.

"Isn't he a great priest?"



Andrea Dixon/Staff photographer
(From left) Father Joseph Hart, vicar general; Bishop Matthew H. Clark; and Father John Mulligan, Sacred Heart pastor, sing in prayer over Deacon Joseph Marcoux.



Andrea Dixon/Staff photographer
Bishop Matthew H. Clark and Father Joseph Marcoux embrace after the priest's ordination.

Sr. James marks 50th

Sister Genevieve James celebrated her 50th jubilee June 24, with a Mass and buffet lunch at the Dominican Nuns Monastery of Mary the Queen in Elmira.

A native of Newark, N.J., Sister Genevieve joined the contemplative order in the Bronx at Corpus Christi Monastery Feb. 2, 1949, and took the name Sister Mary of the Annunciation. She performed various jobs including sewing, assisting dentists who came to the monastery, and working as maintenance manager. She had previously worked as a corporate secretary for about 10 years.

She has lived at the monastery in Elmira since 1989, when she came for a rest but felt called to transfer to the monastery. She has worked in the sewing department, making habits, veils, and nuns' and helped develop, supervised, and maintain...

Obituary

Sister Mary Bede Zibula, SSND

Sister Mary Bede Zibula, a School Sister of Notre Dame, died at the congregation's Baltimore motherhouse on May 10, 2001, after a long illness.

Sister Bede was a second-grade teacher at Holy Redeemer School in Rochester from 1929 to 1932. She also taught sec-

ond grade in Pittsburgh; Baltimore; Camden, N.J.; and Bridgeport, Conn.

Sister Bede was born in City View, Pa., in 1908. She professed her first vows in 1930 and her perpetual vows in 1936.

She is survived by nephews, nieces and cousins.

Bishop Clark is on vacation. His column will return in the August 2 issue.

Education Issue

Publication date: August 16 · Advertising deadline: August 9

Our annual education edition is exceptionally popular among readers — drawing high interest, praise and peer awards. This back-to-school study of trends and developments covers educational topics ranging from kindergarten to the continuing education of adults. It's a great opportunity to showcase everything from school supplies and kids' clothing to college programs and computers.

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