

The Pastor's Corner: Thank you Father Jack Farry

On Monday, June 15, 2015 Father Jack will begin his official retirement from full-time active priestly ministry of 48 years. It is my prayer that retirement is the first day of the best of your life! For 48 years, Father Jack has continued with his ordination grace to preach, to teach, and to sanctify throughout many and varied assignments in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Perseverance, in all vocations in life, is a great grace.

For the past 6 years as an active senior priest, the people of The Queen and I have been blessed with Father Jack's life and ministry, as he returned to the region of his hometown vicinity of Newportville and the nearby place of where he celebrated his first mass at Our Lady of Grace. I hope that he will always know that I and others of The Queen have a deep appreciation, respect, and affection for him since his arrival and return to Lower Bucks County.

For in the words of John Henry Newman and for 48 years, 'you sought to hear the voice of God and climbed the topmost steeple, but God declared: Go down again --- I dwell among the people!' This he has given to us in varied, special, and unique ways that are all 'Father Jack.'

Father Jack has dwelt here and helped me personally for 6 years as I began the new journey of getting to know the new role and responsibilities of being a pastor of a parish faced with many challenges and changes. Father Jack has greatly helped me and all the best people who make new things happen and get things done for today and tomorrow in all areas of parish life. Father Jack will still be very much a continual part of the lifeblood of Queen of the Universe Parish Community, as he begins his retired life and ministry. As I stated before ' , Father Jack will always have a home away from home, as long as I am Pastor of The Queen.'

What makes the inevitable goodbye change a little easier for me, is being able to say hello again in a few short weeks after Jack's well deserved vacation. And, yes, know that Mac and Harley whom you secretly pet, will be happily waiting to greet and wag at your return, as will many people!

Peace and prayers friend, and forever grateful for our full-time life and work together.

Fr. Mike