



## SAINT JOHN FISHER PARISH

May 15, 2017

Dear Parishioners:

Last month I talked about the upcoming celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of Monsignor Gilb. This grand celebration took place on May 7, Good Shepherd Sunday. The word “pastor” means “shepherd.” I couldn’t think of a more appropriate day to honor one who has served as a priest for over 60 years.

Relatives of Monsignor Gilb came from as far away as Texas and Wisconsin. He presided at the 10:45 Mass, and three priests concelebrated with him: Father Francis Aguilar, Father Bernard Kalu, and yours truly. Several of our parish choirs enhanced the music. The church was filled. If you were not present, you can still see the celebration on line, for it was live streamed. The video of the event can be accessed through our parish web site, [www.sjf.org](http://www.sjf.org). This came at the request of one of our parishioners who, unable to attend Mass, watches the 9:00 Mass each Sunday. I asked a member of the video ministry team if someone could live stream this second Mass that weekend, and he readily obliged.

I am grateful for the many people who worked together to make this day a success: those involved in both the Mass and the reception. The pastoral staff, the pastoral council, the women’s council, and many others all worked in cooperation to make it happen. Parishioners, led by Molly Slaughter, created an environment in Barrett Hall that reflected Monsignor Gilb as a priest and a golfer. The reception also included a video presentation of the life of Monsignor Gilb, prepared by parishioner Bob Rapoza. I think my most important contribution to the day was blessing the food in Barrett Hall from afar in Church, so that people could begin eating as soon as they arrived.

Although he has been pastor emeritus for almost 18 years, Msgr. Gilb continues shepherding God’s people. He continues to inspire us as he comes each Sunday to preside at the Eucharist and preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to the faith Community of St. John Fisher.

Ad multos annos!

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. David A. Sork  
Pastor