

Parishioners' Corner

The Importance of a Parish Priest

I have known Fr. McCarthy for many, many years and I was just delighted to see him and all the people who were at his recent 85th birthday party.

My story about how I met Fr. McC has to do with my horrific fear of rodents. About 40 years ago or so, I lived with my two little daughters in Lincoln Square in Chicago. Our cat discovered a mouse in our kitchen and picked it up with her mouth and came into our front room. I was horrified and my oldest daughter (about 10 years old) took the mouse and carried it out into our backyard - she knew how scared I was. The next morning, I decided I had to get out of Lincoln Square and move into an apartment further west. I registered at the church that was close to us - Our Lady of Victory. Fr. McCarthy was one of the priests there and I made arrangements to meet with him and our friendship began. His spirituality, his Irishness, and his pleasant personality was wonderful and we became friends and I became very eager to participate in the things that were going on in the parish. Fr. McCarthy basically healed any wounds I had and encouraged me to participate in what went on in church, which I did. I am deeply grateful to God for putting me into Our Lady of Victory and deeply grateful for all I've been able to do over the years and the many blessings I've received. My gratitude is just growing more and more.

- Mary Wudtke

The July 1 gathering in honor of Fr. McCarthy's 85th birthday gave us, as a community, an opportunity to celebrate with someone we all love and respect.

Fr. McCarthy, as well as the other priests and deacons in our parish, provide us with spiritual strength in an often-challenging world.

- Mary Ellen Gold

Father McCarthy will be recognized at the Trinity Gala on Saturday, November 14, at the Ridgemoor Country Club, for his many years of dedicated service.

Father McCarthy served as pastor of St. Tarcissus from July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2011 and has continued to serve the parish since then as Pastor Emeritus.