



Farewell Message from Father Joe



Dear Parishioners of St. Andrew's,

I am very sad to be leaving St. Andrew's, especially the many people who have become my Church family. I am especially grateful to those who devote so much of their time to create a hospitable, prayerful and family oriented Church community, and who keep things here in good order and shape.

Change is difficult for many people, including myself, but remember we are called to bring the vision of what we have experienced here that is good and life giving, into the future wherever that is.

Our Catholic Church in the Northeast is continuing to decline, as is the number of priests. The average age of parishioners and priests is also increasing. Unless these things turn around with more involvement of young people, we will probably continue to see changes and more parish church mergers and new ways of being church as the "way" of the future.

I ask for your prayers that I can handle the responsibility of being a pastor at St. Mary's and Ss. Francis and Clare parishes, (or at least that I can keep my calendar and appointments better).

I will take many good memories of those who have made St. Andrew's such a rich Church experience for me.

God Bless you all,

Fr. Joe Hlubik

Memories with St. Andrew's Youth Group: Do you remember this from the Monitor in July 2016?



GRATEFUL FOR FAITH • Anne Marie McMullen, youth minister in St. Andrew Parish, Jobstown, left, and Father Joseph Hlubik, parish administrator, right, stand with college graduates Carly Wilkins and Bridget Zaleski. Wilkins and Zaleski addressed the congregation about how their faith has impacted their lives. *Mary Stadnyk photo*