

Thoughts from the Rectory ...

Dear friends of St. John the Evangelist,

Only one week to go!

Yes, it's only 7 days away that we will gather as a parish family, the community of Agawam, long time parishioners and newfound friends, together with Bishop Byrne, for our 75th Anniversary Mass! You have perhaps already seen some sprucing up of the parish and still more some eager celebrating of our years here on Main Street. Many thanks must go out to all our commission chairs and staff personnel who have been planning and working for weeks and months to get us here. Special thanks go to all of you who have volunteered time and talent these past Saturdays and indeed throughout the week. Let's get ready to rejoice!

As I look forward to celebrating the practice of the faith in our families and on our streets, I also had the chance to share in the joy of the faith of our women religious in the Church. This week I participated in the Ritual Mass for the Profession of Perpetual Vows for one of our own from right here in our diocese. Sr. Maria Mater Consecrata made her final vows at the Church of the Holy Comforter & St. Cyprian in Washington DC in the Institute of the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará, also known as, the Servidoras.



These radiant sisters serve in cities and communities, far and wide, sharing the Gospel of Jesus in a living witness and a marital bond with Christ the Bridegroom as the Church is His Bride. These sisters

prostrate themselves in supplication of heavenly intercession, profess their vows publicly and firmly, receive wedding rings as faithful spouses of Christ, and crowned as nuptial brides enjoy the welcome of their sisters with tears of joy. A remarkable day!

Let us proceed in these days to share that joy in our vocations. Husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, priests and deacons, men and women religious everywhere, each of us are called to be signs of the love of Christ and the power of faith.

St. John the Evangelist, pray for us!

Fr. Pierz

