

The Orlando diocese celebrates its 50th anniversary this church year, and our journey along this path will bring you the story of our parish through weekly inserts in the bulletin. We begin with a message from Bishop John Noonan about the jubilee year and his chosen theme: Stay with us, Lord.



June 2018 marks the 50th year since Pope Paul VI established the Diocese of Orlando. Never more than at this time do we find our urgent prayer, “Stay with us, Lord” (Luke 24:29), burning in our hearts as it did with those disciples on the road to Emmaus.

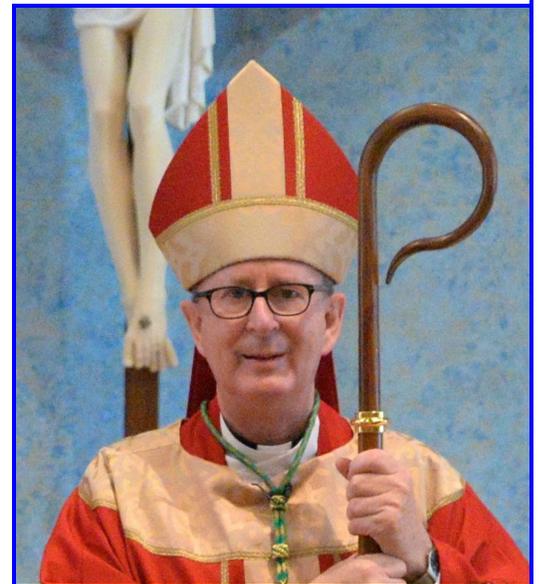
As a local church which today comprises nine counties of Central Florida, we see the Lord’s faithfulness to us through these 50 years, as we continue to grow in numbers of faithful to the Lord.

During this jubilee year, the faithful of this local church recommit ourselves to the Eucharist as the source and summit of our Christian life. In our own physical reality, food plays a primary role in the story in the story of salvation, from the forbidden fruit in the garden which brings forth sin and death to the food of Christ’s body on the tree of the cross, which brings forth everlasting life. It is not the Eucharistic food that is changed into us, but rather we who are mysteriously transformed by it. Christ nourishes us by uniting us to His body: “He draws us into the life of the trinity in giving us His body as our bread of life.”

This bread of life is always reconciling. St. Augustine observes, “The bread you see on the altar, sanctified by the Word of God, is the body of Christ. The chalice, or rather, what the chalice contains, sanctified by the Word of God is the blood of Christ.” In these signs, Christ the Lord willed to entrust to us His body and blood which He shed for the forgiveness of our sins.

What the world needs is God’s love. In his message to the bishops of the United States in November 2016, Pope Francis said, “The Church in America, as elsewhere, is called to ‘go out’ from its comfort zone and to be a leaven of communion: Communion among ourselves, with our fellow Christians, and with all who seek a future of hope.”

To be leaven is to be a prevailing influence to modify or transform something for the better. The Eucharist is the bond of love uniting us to Christ to carry out His mission of making known the presence of God in our midst, a God Who continues to suffer in our sisters and brothers who are hungry, thirsty, sick and imprisoned. Eucharistic spirituality must embrace the whole of our lives. Each of us is truly called, together with Jesus, to be bread broken for the life of the world.



Now, therefore, I, Bishop John Noonan, the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Orlando, do hereby proclaim 2018 as the Year of the Eucharist. I call upon the people of God of the Diocese of Orlando to observe this year with the renewed fervor for the Eucharist and through the blessing of the Father. His only begotten Son, and the fruit of the Holy Spirit, yield the Spirit of the Lord to all the people.

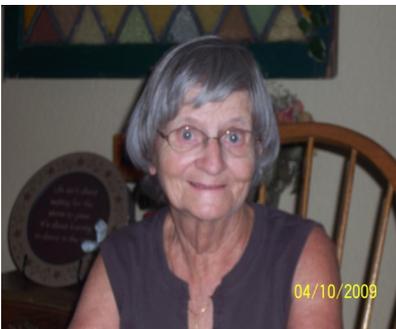
May our urgent prayer — Stay with us, Lord — echo throughout the land as we, through the gift of the Eucharist, bring forth the the love of God with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind.”



OUR CATHOLIC APPEAL
for our people,
our ministries,
our future

Our Catholic Appeal Fun Facts:

- Did you know Our Catholic Appeal originally was called the Bishop's Appeal for Service Enrichment, "B.A.S.E." and was started in 1977?
- In 1977, the first B.A.S.E campaign goal for the diocese was \$650,000. The diocesan goal for 2017 is over \$15.5 million!
- In 2003, B.A.S.E. received a new name. Bishop Dorsey was "emphatic" about having the word "our" in the name of the appeal. He believed that parishes should know it was every Catholic's appeal and not just a bishop's appeal. And from that "Our Catholic Appeal" became the new name of the diocesan appeal.
- In the last five years, Our Catholic Appeal has helped fund the formation of two new deacons for Blessed Trinity.
- Our Catholic Appeal is currently funding the formation of three young men from Blessed Trinity that are studying to become priests in the Diocese of Orlando.
- For at least the last six years, Blessed Trinity has exceeded the goal for our parish.
- Did you know that Our Catholic Appeal is the sole source of funding for 27 ministries that benefit **every** parish, mission and school in the Diocese of Orlando?
- A new Our Catholic Appeal Logo will be revealed in 2018.



Anne LaPlant chaired Our Catholic Appeal for approximately 15 years



Terry Stoothoff and Teresa Herbst have been co-chairs of Blessed Trinity's Our Catholic Appeal from 1999 until current.

Did we miss anything? Please let us know! 352-629-8092