



AD MULTOS ANNOS!

On Saturday October 20, 2018 many full cars from all over New England came to Methuen, Massachusetts to the former St. Theresa's Church for a happy occasion. It was the 50th anniversary of Ordination to the Marist Priesthood of Kenneth Thibodeau, SM. There were 8 of us on the altar, Leonard Haley, SM served. The Eucharistic celebration began at 11 a.m. with a full choir of 15 adults directed by Lori McLaughlin. And that wasn't the last we would see of Lori, as she and the choir also served over 100 of us downstairs a full course meal of an early Thanksgiving dinner! And her 8 year old granddaughter went from table to table with pencil and a pad of paper in hand asking us what we wanted to drink! Ken had presided at Lori's wedding many years ago, and baptized some of her children as well.



Ken (center) celebrating Eucharist with Paul Frechette & Walter Gaudreau

The full cars came from Ken's previous parish assignments: St. John's, Brunswick, Maine; St. Joseph's in Haverhill, Massachusetts; St. Anthony's in White River Junction, Vermont; and presently 15 Marist Missionary sisters from Newton Street in Waltham, Massachusetts. Thursday and Friday Ken presides and preaches at Marist Hill nursing home in Waltham and Saturday and Sunday he repeats the cycle but this time at the Sisters main house. Ken also served as Provincial of the Boston province from 1997-2003.



Ken with his brothers and sisters

The group that stole the show was his 6 older siblings from Connecticut, 4 of his sisters and 2 of his brothers. There were 6 more but all have gone home to God. Ken told us about his humble beginnings in Keagan, Maine, a "suburb" of Van Buren. He was teaching at the public high school in Van Buren on Friday afternoon. Saturday he was ordained to the priesthood, and Sunday was his first Mass. Monday morning he was back in the classroom teaching!

AD MULTOS ANNOS, KEN!

by Paul Frechette SM



Marists and friends celebrate with Ken