

History of St. Joseph Parish continued.

1925 – 2003

Some Who Have Worked with Father Bluett



As mentioned, Father Steve Olds was the first assistant, followed by Joe Pinchock. Although the parish was without an assistant for a short time Father Frank Goodman and Father Leo Hammer assisted with daily Mass. Father Leo is retired from parish work in Tonawanda, NY and spends his winters here.

Our new parochial vicar is Father Mark Wegg, a charismatic priest who was ordained in New Hersey in 1987. Father brings a spirit of humor as well as enlightenment; not only to his sermons, but also in the special dramatic presentations he has made for groups like the RCIA and the Women's Guild. One Sunday, with Fr. Barry Horan, in a dramatic presentation, he focused parishioner's attention on our recitation of the Our Father. Father spends many hours each week ministering to the sick. Father was incarnated to the Orlando diocese in May, 2003.

St. Joseph is currently blessed with two Deacons, Nuoc Van Dang and John Landry. Deacon Van Dang has been a member of St. Joseph parish since 1975 after he left Vietnam with \$25.00 to support his wife and child. St. Joseph Church helped many Vietnamese find shelter, food, and clothing. He was ordained as a Deacon 11 years ago and he is especially active with the large Vietnamese community, which meets regularly for support, social activities and spiritual growth. He said, "Religion and family spirit are very important to us."

Deacon Landry came to ST. Joseph from Moline, Illinois in 2000. He was ordained 25 years ago in Peoria, Illinois.

For several years, Robert Ference was responsible for many of the lay ministries. For example, the Eucharist ministers to the sick now take communion weekly to more than 160 who are in the hospitals or unable to attend Mass. George Bronson now coordinates the lay ministers and their visits. Mary Hession currently works with all the lay ministries which are listed at the end of his history. Judy Hagler works with a team to prepare these in the RCIA program. Becky Roach administers the varied and active youth programs.

