IMPACTFUL ENCOUNTERS

MINISTRY TO PRIESTS

While our priests support and nurture our sacramental life and serve as administrators of parish life, some may wonder who serves them? In 2018, Ministry to Priests was formed to offer ongoing spiritual, fraternal and pastoral development for all diocesan and religious priests serving in the Diocese of St. Petersburg. And in the time since its creation, it has blossomed!

Currently under the guidance of Rev. Arthur Proulx, the "priest for priests," spiritual direction, sacramental reconciliation, support groups for a variety of ages and stages in our priest's vocation and care of retired priests are all a part of our pastoral ministry budget. "I have enjoyed my whole ministry here as the Director of Ministry to Priests and ministering to people that I have a lot of admiration and concern for," explained Father Proulx, sharing how important it is for our diocese to have this ministry, sharing the reality of most retired

priests, explaining, "I've been a priest since 1980, and this is one of the most rewarding jobs I've ever had. Particularly keeping in mind that a lot of priests have no family at all. It's especially important for the Diocese to reach out to them, to let them know they haven't been forgotten."

This ministry includes a variety of reflection and retreat opportunities offered each year, continuing development in areas of Scripture, spirituality and pastoral formation as well as working with our international priests and the growing number of newly ordained who diligently serve in parishes across our diocese.

From covering Masses for parishes in need to collaborating with our Priest Wellness Coordinator, our Director travels from one end of the Diocese to the other to ensure the overall wellness of the dedicated men he serves.



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> - Rev. Arthur Proulx, Director Ministry to Priests

