

## **Final Reflection June 2022**

Today I write this "reflection" for the last time. I will be retiring from Parish ministry as of June 30, 2022. In April I celebrated my 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and realized that I could stop.

When I think about my ministerial history, it makes me smile. Probably, like many of you who have also retired, there is a quiet feeling of peace. That's all; I am finished. In addition to that there is a deep Gratitude. I thank God for so many gifts during these 50+ years. And to conclude this ministry what a blessing to be brought to this parish. Thank you Fr. David, just deeply - I thank you.

This Parish Staff truly has your best interest in mind. It truly is built on a team that cares for each other. We/they work together for the good of the parish. Each day to come to the office has been a true joy.

Then there is YOU, the People of God in this parish. You are a kind, loving and caring people, you have been so good to me. I have often wondered how my life would come to closure. I could never have dreamed of anything better, than being here with you.

I am going to be in the area for some months, my Congregation, my Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, have graciously allowed me to stay for a while. Then in the Spring, I will return to our Motherhouse in Sinsinawa Wisconsin. My sisters are eagerly awaiting my "coming home" to them. And I welcome that as well. They have been a life -gift. Wow, how blessed am I. I will continue to hold you in my heart with Prayer and Hope. Just know that I have loved you very much.

THANK YOU,

**Jo Ann**