

5 October 2008

Dear Parishioners,

I believe it was in 1950 that Ken & Cecilia VanDerhoef moved to Our Lady of the Lake Parish. And from the beginning they were selfless in their commitment here. They loved OLL! I first met Ken & Ceil in 1980. And it was in 1981 that I presided at their 50th wedding anniversary here.

Now, fast-forward twenty years: soon after I arrived at St. Jude's in Redmond, Ceil phoned and welcomed me back after my years in monastic life. Her thoughtfulness so impressed me. And I was touched that she had not forgotten me after all those years. That says much about her. When I asked how she was doing, she said that she loved living at Mount St. Vincent. And what thrilled her more than anything was that her room was next to the chapel. Now that says everything about her!

In 2007, Ceil returned, not only to God and to her husband Ken, but to OLL one last time when I presided at her funeral Mass, completing the VanDerhoef history at the parish. Or so I thought. After Easter of this year, their grandson Michael and his wife Patty joined the parish and love it here. And I love having them here. So the VanDerhoef legacy continues.

Michael wanted to honor his grandparents in some way, and so I suggested a chalice and paten that would be engraved in their memory. I felt these fitting symbols of their lives at OLL: lives generously poured out in many ways over the years. To me, they embodied the mystery we receive in the Eucharist.

This Sunday, October 5th during the 9:30 a.m. Mass, we will bless both chalice and paten that will be used regularly at the Masses. And I will offer thanks to God for their fidelity and love that will live on in these sacred mysteries.

Fa. Tim Clark

Pastor