

Deacon Omer Bertke



Omer Bertke was ordained to the Diaconate by Archbishop Pilarczyk in 1987 in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Ohio. He was assigned to St. John the Baptist Church, Maria Stein, Ohio, and has continued to minister to the people of St. John's Parish in various ways since his ordination to the diaconate. Omer meets the needs of the Parish Community by fulfilling roles as deacon at Mass, presiding at Baptisms, and visiting the sick. Additionally, he provides training for servers, commentators, lectors, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. During and prior to his ordination Omer served as a catechist for thirty-three years (33), teaching grades seven thru seniors in high school.

Omer married the love of his life Rita M. (Dahlinghaus, Egypt, Ohio) and they have been married for sixty (60) years. The blessings of their life include four (4) sons and four (4) daughters, twenty (20) grand-children; and twenty six (26) great-grand-children.

Omer is an active member with the Mercer County Right to Life, an organization that defends the rights of the unborn. He served as treasurer, holding this position for five (5) years, during which time he joined fellow member marchers on trips to Washington D.C, protesting abortion of the unborn.

Omer is past office manager of the Minster Farmers Cooperative, Minster, Ohio (now a branch of Trupointe Cooperative, Inc. with headquarters at Piqua, Ohio). He was employed for forty six (46) years with this cooperative prior to his retirement. He holds an associate degree in accounting.