

Giving Thanks

By Fr. Bob McDonald, S.M.



Fr. Bob McDonald, SM

Thank you, Ralph and Dotty!

Thank you for coming up to visit me Friday. You came at a time when I needed to speak about the latest event in my life. I am no longer assigned to scheduled ministry. Your coming lifted my spirits. Your love for each other is like the sun coming through the clouds after days of chilling rain. I felt like I was sitting at the fireplace on a cold winter's night, wrapped in a warm blanket.

Your coming reminded me of nearly thirty years of living The Dream together, presenting Weekends to couples and priests, renewing the Church, giving new life, healing the past and bringing hope to the world. I have seen your excitement in reaching out to bring more loving people to the Weekend, sharing your gift with them and continuing the journey with them. You have been "Good Shepherds," helping me and the presenting couples tell our story, and be faithful to our Worldwide Family. You have taken care of the thousands of details which are necessary to keep The Dream alive. You have traveled the length and breadth of this country during these many years as leaders in our beloved movement. You have touched the lives of countless people. And the fire of your love is burning still!

Because of you, and couples and priests who believe as we do in this Dream, I am more in love with my Bride, the Church. I see the Beauty and Holiness of Jesus in the Church more clearly because of your inspiration.

I continue to enjoy being your Priest, though no longer able to present Weekends. For I have come to experience the joy of being a part of the Body of Christ.

I thank God for calling me to this Mission. The part I will now play will be that of Prayer. One form of prayer is that of **thanksgiving**. The word "Eucharist" means "Thanksgiving."

I will spend my remaining days thanking God for the many graces given to us during these years, years of being part of Christ's mission of making His Bride more "beautiful, without spot or wrinkle."

I love you!

Fr. Bob McDonald, S.M.

Fr. Bob McDonald, S.M. and Ralph & Dotty Cornette have presented many Weekends together since 1981. Fr. Bob has given Weekends all over the United States. The three of them served as the Ecclesial Team for Maine several times. They also served as Section One Ecclesial Team and have given presentations at Worldwide Marriage Encounter conventions. For the last eight years, they have lived 300 miles from each other.

Love,
Ralph & Dotty