
A very special thank you goes out to Fr. Ray and Deacon Pat for all their guidance, love, spirituality, and hope that they have shared with our Church.

Also, thank you to all of you who played any part in today's celebration. It was very much appreciated!

May God bless us all!



REV. RAYMOND H. FLEMING
DEACON PATRICK A. GRAYBILL

A CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING
FOR 25 YEARS OF MINISTRY TO THE
DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER
APRIL 15, 2007

"My son, if you aspire to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for an ordeal. Be sincere of heart, be steadfast, and do not be alarmed when disaster comes. Cling to him and do not leave him, so that you may be honored at the end of your days. Whatever happens to you, accept it, and in the uncertainties of your humble state, be patient, since gold is tested in fire, and chosen men in the furnace of humiliation. Trust him and he will uphold you." Ecc. 2: 1-6

PATRICK GRAYBILL

Patrick Graybill was born in Kansas just before World War II began. He is one of seven children: three of his sisters and a brother are deaf and he has a hearing sister, who is a certified Sign language interpreter. He graduated from the Kansas School For the Deaf, where an eloquent Deaf teacher whose storytelling ability made him think seriously about becoming a storyteller inspired him. He also saw his older sister in a school production of *Tom Sawyer*, which planted the idea of acting in his head. He graduated from Gallaudet College with a bachelor's degree in English in 1963 and a master's degree in education in 1964. He then was a member of the National Theatre of the Deaf from 1969 to 1979, and was an artist-in-residence for three weeks at the Methodist Ladies' College in Melbourne, Australia, in 1995. He retired four summers ago as a performing arts and literature Professor for twenty three years at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf and serves as a permanent Deacon for Emmanuel Church of the Deaf, a Catholic church in Rochester, N.Y. God willing, he will celebrate his twentieth five anniversary of being a Deacon. He was being conferred the degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, Honorius Causa, from St. Thomas University, Miami Gardens, Florida, on May 7, 2005. His avocations are acting, storytelling, creating original poems in his native language, American Sign Language, and translating texts from English into ASL.

LIFE JOURNEY – RAYMOND H. FLEMING

Raymond H. Fleming
Born and Baptized: June 5, 1951
Became deaf at the age of 4 (childhood illness)
Entered St. Ann's School in Butte, MT in September, 1957; early education by the Sisters of Charity, BVM (from Iowa)
Confirmed in April 1964
Graduated from St. Ann's in May 1965
Entered Boy's Central High School (Irish Christian Brothers) September 1965
Graduated in May, 1969
Entered the Franciscan Friars, TOR in Washington, DC in August, 1969
Entered Gallaudet College (now University) in September 1970 and began the process of becoming Deaf
First Vows in the Franciscan community in June 1972
Graduated from Gallaudet in 1974
Left the Franciscans in 1976 and joined the National theatre of the Deaf (1976—1978)
Entered St. Bernard Seminary in fall 1979
Ordained deacon October 1980
Graduated from St. Bernard's in 1981 and was assigned to St. Mary's Church of the Deaf for 3 months and then to St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Scottsville for 9 months
Ordained a priest in April 1982
Assigned to St. Rita Church in Webster (1982—1985)
Appointed pastor of St. Mary Church of the Deaf July 1985
Second degree from St. Bernard's: MA in Biblical Theology May 1991
Served on the Board of Directors of International Catholic Deaf Association (ICDA) 1985—1991
Served on the board of the National Catholic Office for the Deaf (NCOD) 1989—1991
Member of the ecumenical Christians for the Liberation of the Deaf Community (CLDC) for 9 years
Presided over the move and renaming of Emmanuel Church of the Deaf to the west side of the City in 1992
Appointed Sacramental Minister of St. Monica, St. Augustine, Sts. Peter and Paul, Our Lady of Good Counsel Churches while remaining pastor of Emmanuel Church of the Deaf July 2004
Appointed pastor of St. Monica, St Augustine, Our Lady of Good Counsel, and Sts. Peter and Paul Churches) concurrent with pastoring Emmanuel Church of the Deaf) August 2005
Board Member, Center for Disability Rights (CDR) in Rochester 2005 to present
Staff Member, Pastoral Counseling and Family Therapy Group 1999 to present
Adopted Maccabee in 2000

Dinner Ticket

Celebrating Fr. Ray's 25 years of Priesthood
Sunday, September 30, 2007
2:00 pm

Plantation Party House
1875 N. Union St.
Spencerport, NY

ADMIT ONE

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