

Spiritan Magazine

Volume 39
Number 2 *Spring*

Article 13

Spring 2015

Home and Away

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dsc.duq.edu/spiritan-tc>

Recommended Citation

(2015). Home and Away. *Spiritan Magazine*, 39 (2). Retrieved from <https://dsc.duq.edu/spiritan-tc/vol39/iss2/13>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Spiritan Collection at Duquesne Scholarship Collection. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spiritan Magazine by an authorized editor of Duquesne Scholarship Collection.

Thank you Dundalk, Thank you Proton, Thank you Melancthon

Peter Wayow CSSp

When I came here, I had a pretty clear idea of what I was supposed to do in this parish. I was here to be with you, to live among you, to walk beside you in your moments of greatest joy and deepest sorrow.

I was here to listen to you, to share our faith, through the sacraments and God's word, in our pretty little country churches. At the heart of our relationship was trust, respect and lots of mutual love. And that basically, is how I spent my last 17 years in the Parish.

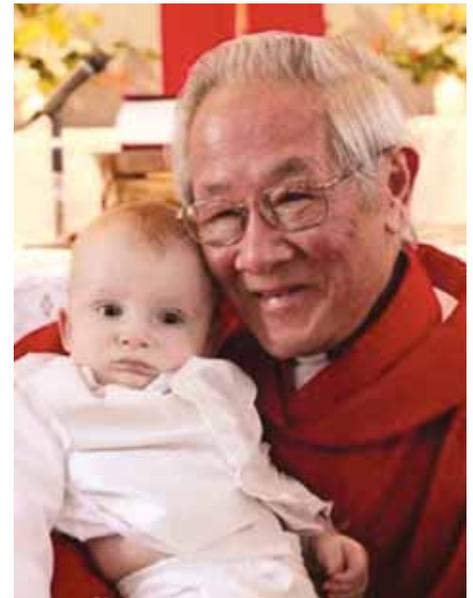
St. John's parish is not rich. We get along financially from month to month, though just about. We were never subsidized by the diocese and we never requested financial help. Twice, when we were in a real financial bind, I asked your help and you responded so generously. When I appealed to you last year, I couldn't help smiling really big as I

saw our bank balance go from about \$400 to \$22,000, in 3 months. I thank you so much.

You have done all the usual church work that many other richer parishes pay for: musicians, catechists, sacristans, janitors, landscapers, carpenters, bricklayers – virtually everything in our three little communities was done by you – for free. Without your help, we just couldn't function.

This retirement party (whose details you tried so desperately to hide from me – with only limited success) took months to prepare. It took an enormous amount of time, an enormous amount of work and a lot of money. You did it just for me, with tender loving care. I am so, so appreciative.

Most of all though, I thank you for your love. Your love for me was so manifest, that it kept me going, like the



energizer bunny, for over 17 years. Our togetherness was so "up close and personal," that sometimes I would forget and start talking to some of you in Trinidadian English, and you would look at me funny and ask: "What?"

Joy and laughter and so much more

I will miss many things when I leave – the joy and laughter of our adorable children and the coffee after Mass at Proton. The best coffee in the world is brewed right here in our parish. And the world's best altar servers are found right here in St. John's.

I will miss the CWL, especially their luncheons and dinners. I was always invited. I will miss celebrating the Eucharist with you on weekdays and weekends. I will particularly miss celebrating Mass at our two retirement homes in Shelburne, with brothers and sisters many of whom are on the final leg of their faith journey here on earth.

And I will miss each and every one of you – a lot, a whole big lot. But all roads come to an end and I guess the time has come to say goodbye. Let our party today be a celebration of those 17 wonderful years we've spent together, in such closeness, with so much joy and with so much love. To ALL of you, I am eternally grateful. Thank you very, very much. May the good Lord continue to bless you today, and every day of your lives. ■



Third place
Edition Layout & Design
Spring 2014 issue



Third place
Front Cover
"What you do for them
... you do for me"
(Fall 2014)

Third place Editorial

"In weakness, strength"
by Pat Fitzpatrick CSSp
(Spring 2014)