



## **FR. JOSEPH TARRILLION**

*50 years of ordination*

I grew up in central San Antonio in a family steeped in our German heritage. My father was a leader of the famous Liederkrantz that sang at the Sunday high Mass and, most memorably, at Christmas midnight Mass. My family has been — and is — a marvelous support.

In all of my years of formation, I not only earned academic credit and spiritual formation, but I also was able to use my skills on a variety of projects. I worked with working brothers on complete remodeling of rooms at the St. Anne building on the Marynook campus. At Maryhurst, I worked with Franz Schorp on the construction of the print shop for Marianist Press. At Regina Mundi Seminary in Fribourg, Switzerland, I worked with Franz again, to recover and recommission the heating system, and in renovating 40 rooms in the former seminary residence. At St. Mary's University, I worked with Larry Martinogni remodeling and plastering the classrooms in Reinboldt Hall.

It was in Milwaukee that I began to develop into a leader for religious education, working with lay — mostly public school teachers — involved in CCD. This commitment was then enhanced by a graduate degree in religious education from Notre Dame and a D.Min. (Austin School of Theology), which I pursued while chair of the theology department at St. Mary's University.

In St. Louis, I was proud to be asked to lead the first Marianist community with the mission of developing the Family of Mary. In my years at St. Mary's University, I was able to work at teaching, administration and community building. In my last ministry as president at Central Catholic High School, I was able to return to my roots. I was happy to serve the people who had served me.