



## **FATHER J. DONALD CAHILL**

*Celebrating 60 years of ordination*

I was ordained on June 11, 1961. There were four of us: Don Cowie and me, as well as a Japanese Marianist and a Spanish Marianist who went to a nearby German diocese and were ordained with their ordination class. I returned to the United States and celebrated my first Mass at my home parish, Holy Redeemer in Detroit, with my family present.

I have served in many different ministries: high schools, parishes and hospital ministry. My time at Vianney High School was very positive.

The celebration of Eucharist and the sacrament of reconciliation were and are powerful for me. In the Eucharist, I experience and imagine the closeness that Mary had with Jesus when he came into our world. In Eucharist, we can all experience the great love God has for us and His nearness to us. In the sacrament of reconciliation, I was a silent witness to the gracious mercy of a God who loves us more than we know. Those sacraments were and are graces for me, and I hope and pray they were graces for all those who shared them with me.

In all my ministries, I continue to know that there is no end to God's mercy and that He never gives up on us. It has been a blessing.

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