

Dotti McDermott

Dotti has been a practicing Catholic for most of her life and is currently a communicant at St. William of York parish in Tewksbury, Massachusetts, along with her husband Mike. Over the years, she has been actively involved in her faith community, serving in diverse roles: Eucharistic Minister, lector, music ministry. Additionally, Dotti has taught in the parish's Religious Education Program for over 20 years. She is passionately involved in the ACTS Retreat Movement, she has directed retreats and has served on the ACTS core team.

Dotti earned her nursing license in 1978 and has steadfastly worked in this caregiving field ever since. She views her career as a Christ-called vocation and strives to demonstrate the Lord's compassion thru her dedicated service each day.

Currently, Dotti uses her comprehensive nursing experience to serve as the Clinical Director at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Oblate Residence in Tewksbury, Massachusetts. In addition to managing the skilled-nursing/assisted living component of this local community of retired Oblate priests and brothers, she also works with the OMI Provincial Administration to develop and achieve wellness outcomes for Oblates throughout the United States.

Dotti has a deep admiration for the quality of the Oblates' religious life; working as a caregiver for them and with them has given her numerous opportunities for growth in her own spiritual life.

Dotti and her husband, Mike continuously celebrate their 43 year of marriage and are blessed with 3 grown children and a grandson.

Mike McDermott

Mike is the loving husband of Dotti. For his entire life, Mike has been a communicant of St. William of York parish in Tewksbury, Massachusetts. As a boy, he served at the altar and all through his youth, he was actively involved in the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) in his parish.

After graduation, Mike married his high school sweetheart, Dotti. He then enlisted in the Air Force; stationed in Little Rock, Arkansas for 4 years, he served as an environmental engineer before returning to Massachusetts. After his military discharge, Mike earned a degree in business management and for many years, worked in the high-tech industry. He came to the realization that his calling was to assist those in need rather than augmenting his own bottom line. He was schooled in the care of those disabled through dementia – now as a Certified Dementia Practitioner, he works for Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley. His work involves ensuring that people with dementia and their families have access to the resources needed for their journey through this emotionally trying disease.

Over the course of the past 40 years, Mike enthusiastically involved himself in the religious life of his parish, serving as a Eucharistic Minister, and assuming leadership roles in the St. Vincent DePaul Society. A graced moment arrived for Mike upon participating in one of the first ACTS retreats sponsored by St. William's parish. Since then, he has devoted himself to fostering involvement in the ACTS community, organizing Mission trips and taking the lead in conducting ACTS retreats.

Intensely dedicated to his family, parish, the elderly and to a Christ-inspired life, Mike exemplifies the virtues of St. Joseph, a devoted Christian man working tirelessly in his vocation of service to others.