

Cumberland parishioners grateful for support

For the past six months, St. Patrick in Cumberland has been dealing with the loss of our pastor. We have been experiencing many different feelings because of this loss. However, this experience has not been all negative.

Priests from all over the archdiocese have faithfully served our parish. We are honored to have priests from as far away as Baltimore to celebrate Mass with us. Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien and Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski have made the trip on several occasions. What a powerful witness to us about the commitment of our archdiocese to the needs of our parish!

We have been blessed to have Deacon Charlie Hiebler serve as our temporary pastoral leader. He, too, makes the long trip from Baltimore sometimes several times a week. He has worked diligently with our dedicated parish staff to keep our church running smoothly. His leadership, support and positive attitude are gifts to all of us.

Our small parish staff of five has worked overtime to continue the many activities and ministries in our church. Deacons Frank Werner and Loren Mooney, Administrative Assistant Teresa Files, Secretary Kathy Rybka, and Director of Music Jay J. Klapka demonstrate on a daily basis what Christian service is all about.

We are deeply grateful to so many in our archdiocese who are helping us to heal.