

GETTING TO KNOW OUR PARISH FAMILY



When visiting the Halepeska household you may be met at the door with a great aroma from the kitchen. That means Mark is cooking something for dinner. He plants a huge garden every year and cooks up everything it produces.

If you have ever talked to Mark, you'd know he's "not from around these parts". Marcus (Mark) Halepeska, one of four children, went to grade school at Incarnate Word Academy and public high school in Corpus Christi, Texas. He worked as an engineering intern for three summers at Great Northern Oil (now Flint Hills Resources), while attending Rice Institute in Houston, joining Great Northern permanently in 1957. He worked there for 35 years, retiring in 1993.

Regina (Sterner) went to grade school and high school at Holy Trinity Catholic School in Winsted, MN. She comes from a family of fourteen children. After graduation she was ready for a change and moved to the Big City. Regina was one of the first secretaries hired at Great Northern Refinery, and that is where she and Mark met. The rest is history.

They were married in 1957 at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in St. Paul. They have been members at St. Mathias parish since 1967. All four of their children attended St. Mathias School. Their son, Donald is also a member of the parish. They have four grandchildren.

Over the years, Mark has served as Parish Liaison to the Boy Scouts, lector, Eucharistic minister, trustee, School Board member, Home and School Association President, parish council member, and finance council chair. He also served two terms on the Archdiocesan Board of Education as the representative from our Deanery. He managed the School Asbestos Maintenance Program from 1990 until the school closed.

Mark assisted Father Val Messerich in setting up the office and hiring the first parish secretary. he did much of the financial paperwork until Father Stan hired Rhonda Rother as the parish administrator.

Regina was active in the St. Anne's society, served as parish representative to the Deanery and Home and School Association president. She maintained the income/expense ledger for Father Hermes, taught faith formation, and for a number of years scheduled the gift bearers for the Masses. She still enjoys visiting with members of the Little Flower Circle.