

*God bless you  
+ Aunt Michaela*

*Fr. John Onusko*

*Commemorating The*  
SILVER  
SACERDOTAL JUBILEE  
OF

THE VERY REVEREND NICHOLAS J. REPKO, V. F.  
PASTOR OF  
ST. JOSEPH'S BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
AND  
DEAN OF THE  
CLEVELAND WEST DEANERY

Sunday, November 22, 1970

*Liturgical Program*

St. Joseph's Byzantine  
Catholic Church

*Civic Program*

Main Ballroom  
Sheraton-Cleveland  
Hotel

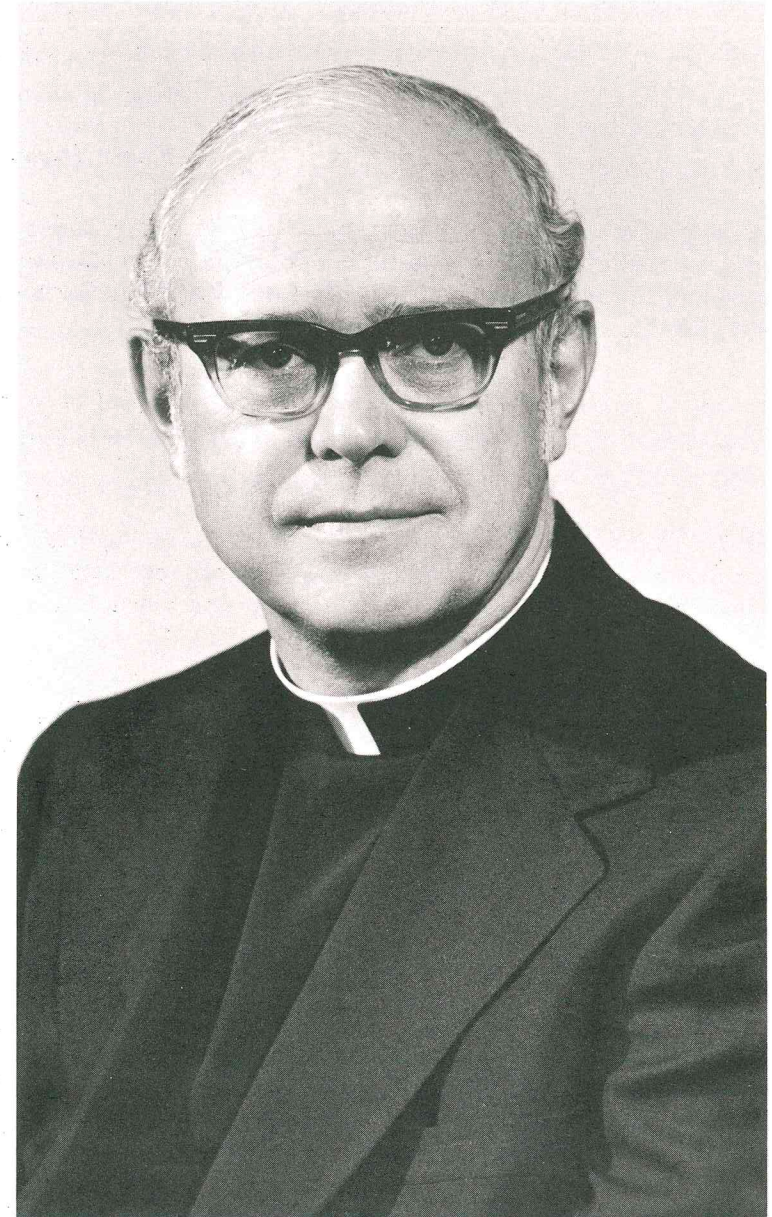
*The Very Reverend*  
NICHOLAS J. REPKO, V. F.

*Ordained*  
*to the*  
HOLY PRIESTHOOD

*by*  
THE MOST REVEREND BASIL TAKACH, D. D.

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL  
Munhall, Pennsylvania

November 13, 1945



*Very Rev. Nicholas J. Repko, V. F.*

THE SILVER JUBILEE OF SERVICE  
IN THE VINEYARD OF CHRIST

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*"My God, what a life! And it is yours, Priest of Jesus Christ."*

*---Father Lacordaire*

*Our pastor, Father Nicholas Repko, with the help and guidance of Divine Providence, has reached the Silver Anniversary of Service in the vineyard of Christ. The reaching of this significant milestone means that our Jubilarian has dedicated almost half his life to priestly service.*

*The call to serve Christ came to young Nicholas Repko when he was a commuting student at St. Francis College in Loretto, Pa. where he had studied for two years, from 1939 to 1941.*

*Born on December 13, 1919 in Spangler, Pa., the son of John and Mary (Bednar) Repko, Nicholas was almost twenty-one years old that spring day in 1940 when he was studying in the college library and when he came upon a quotation which changed the course of his life.*

*The inspiring quotation which our Jubilarian read some thirty years ago and which persuaded or influenced him to study for the Holy Priesthood was:*

*"To live in the midst of the world without wishing its pleasures; to be a member of each family, yet belonging to none; to share all sufferings; to penetrate all secrets; to heal all wounds; to go from men to God and offer Him their prayers; to return from God to men to bring pardon and hope; to have a heart of fire by charity and a heart of bronze by chastity; to teach, console, and bless always. My God, what a life! And it is yours, Priest of Jesus Christ."*

*---Father Lacordaire*

*The call had come and he hastened homeward to tell the good news to his father, a hard-working coal miner who was on his knees all the time as he dug coal in a three-foot vein, and to his equally industrious mother.*

*Needless to say, the parents were overjoyed upon hearing their son's decision to become a Priest of God. However, this news did not come as a complete surprise for their Nicholas as soon as he had received First Holy Communion he had begun to serve God as an altar boy and later had served as a cantor in his church.*

*In the summer of 1941 he was accepted by His Excellency Bishop Basil Takach D. D., of blessed memory, as a candidate for the Holy Priesthood.*

*And so in September of that year, Nicholas Repko --- a graduate of the elementary school in Marsteller and of Barnesboro High School --- entered St. Procopius Seminary in Lisle, Illinois from which he graduated in June of 1943 with a B. A. degree.*

*On November 13, 1945, at the Cathedral of St. John in Munhall, Pa. by the Grace of God, through the imposition of the ordaining hands of Bishop Basil Takach, Nicholas Repko became "A priest forever according to the order of Melchisedech." (Hebrews 5, 6).*

*A month later he received his first assignment as Administrator of our St. Joseph's Church in which capacity he served very ably until 1947 when he was designated as pastor of St. Stephen's parish in Detroit, Michigan. Five years later, in 1952, he became the pastor of St. John's Church in Minneapolis, Minn., serving there until 1955 when named to the pastorate of SS. Peter and Paul Church in Struthers, Ohio.*

*Three years later, June 5, 1958 he was assigned again to our parish in Newburgh which pastorate he continues to fulfill zealously and conscientiously for the salvation of souls.*

*Not only has he served well as pastor in the various parishes to which he had been assigned, but also performed other duties to which the bishop had designated Father Repko.*

*In 1956 Father Repko was appointed Assistant Director of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.*

From 1958 until 1964 he served as Administrator of the Byzantine Catholic High School in Parma, Ohio.

Since the summer of 1968, Father Repko has been performing the extra-curricular obligations as Spiritual Moderator of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women of the Parma Diocese, and as Dean of the Cleveland West Deanery.

Today on the Twenty-Fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, he pauses to celebrate. He is joined in this celebration by his parishioners and his countless friends while recounting the highlights of his admirable work---in the organization and administration of the temporal affairs in the many parishes he has served and in the furtherance of the spiritual welfare of the many souls entrusted to his care.

As they extend their sincere congratulations and best wishes for continued success in his life's vocation, paraphrasing Father Lacordaire, they say, "My God, what a priestly life! And it is yours, Father Repko, Priest of Jesus Christ."



Our Jubilarian at the time  
of his ordination - 1945.

## SILVER JUBILEE DINNER MENU

### *Appetizer*

SUPREME OF FRESH FRUIT COCKTAIL

### *Entree*

BRAISED YANKEE POT ROAST OF BEEF  
*with mushroom sauce*

### *Vegetable*

OREGON BLUE LAKE STRING BEANS  
*with chopped bacon*

### *Potato*

AU-GRATIN

### *Salad*

MIXED GARDEN GREENS

### *Dessert*

SHERATON FROZEN ICE CREAM PIE

WITH DEEP GRATITUDE

*I take this opportunity to extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks to His Excellency, The Most Reverend Emil J. Mihalik, D. D., Priests, Sisters, Jubilee Committee, Parishioners, Parish Organizations, Guests and Friends - all who have contributed in any way whatsoever to make my Silver Jubilee Celebration a truly happy and memorable occasion.*

*I extend my special thanks and appreciation to the sponsors and patrons of this book who through their generous contributions made my Twenty-Fifth anniversary souvenir book possible. May Almighty God in His Infinite Love and Goodness reward each and everyone of you with the bestowal of His choicest blessings.*

*Very Reverend Nicholas J. Repko, V. F.*

*The Liturgical Program*

*St. Joseph's Byzantine  
Catholic Church*

*The Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving*

*Presiding*

THE MOST REVEREND EMIL J. MIHALIK, D. D.  
Bishop of The Diocese of Parma

*Celebrant*

THE VERY REV. NICHOLAS J. REPKO, V. F.

*Archpriests*

Rev. Msgr. John M. Bilock, V. G.  
Rev. Msgr. Basil Smochko, S. T. D.

*Master of Ceremonies*

Rev. Basil Schott, O. F. M.

*Deacons*

Very Rev. Andrew Vaida, V. F.  
Very. Rev. Michael Felock, V. F.

*Chaplains to the Bishop*

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Bodnar, V. G.  
Rt. Rev. Archpriest Tomislav Firis

*Homily*

THE MOST REVEREND EMIL J. MIHALIK, D. D.

*RESPONSES*

St. Joseph's Byzantine Catholic Church Choir  
Michael Karaffa, *Director*  
Micheal Zaretsky, *Cantor*