

Father Gerry Pettipas, C.Ss.R.

There is nothing so boring than to hear people go on at length about their life and all their accomplishments. It's like watching someone's home videos. There are many anecdotes to my life, as I know there are in the life of each and every one. This is a thumb-nail sketch of how life as unfolded for me.

Before going to St. Mary's: I came from a Nova Scotia family, and my father was a career air-force man with the RCAF. I grew up on a few different bases across Canada. When I went to Brockville in 1966, my father was getting ready to retire, and we were living in Halifax, my natal city.

After graduating from St. Mary's, I went on to Holy Redeemer College and the University of Windsor. Graduated in 1971 with a B.A. Began theology studies at the Université de Montréal; after one year there did my novitiate at Gerard House in Toronto. Was ordained a priest in 1977, at Assumption Parish in Toronto. Since then, have had the following assignments as a Redemptorist:

1976 to 1980 - St. John's, NF	parish ministry; youth and vocations
1980 to 1981 - Toronto, ON	vocation director; assistant at Gerard House
1981 to 1987 - Windsor, ON	director of novices
1987 to 1990 - Toronto, ON	mission preaching
1990 to 1992 - Windsor, ON	rector of HRC
1992 to 1993 - Toronto, ON	Youth Mission Team development; living at novitiate
1993 to 1995 - St. John's, NF; Saint John NB	Youth Mission Team
1995 to 1999 - Toronto, ON	rector and pastor, St. Patrick's Parish
1999 to present - Grande Prairie, AB	pastor

Lots has happened over the years, and I continue to learn a great deal as I go along. I wish I knew even ten years ago what I know now. Faith keeps my life grounded and joyful; a sense of humour keeps it from getting too serious! Friends are among life's greatest joys.

That's it. That's my story, and I'm sticking to it.