

The Parish and School would like to introduce to you our first formal Director of Religious Education. This ministry was announced by Pope Francis in his Moto Proprio *Antiquum Ministerium* in 2021. This professional ministry will serve the community by providing leadership and oversight to all Faith-based educational ministries.

Dr. James Gregory will function in this DRE role beginning July 1, 2023. Jim, or “Doc” as many of you know him, is originally from St Eugene parish in Chicago, IL, where he attended catholic grade school and 4 yrs. of public High School. He obtained a BS in Biology from Loyola University of Chicago in 1980. He graduated from Rush Medical College in Chicago in 1984 and did a General Surgery residency in Milwaukee, WI. He followed residency with a Fellowship in Surgical/Anesthesia Critical Care at The Ohio State University. Then embarked on a 35-year career in Academic Medicine, including Professorships in surgery at three US Universities, a Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons, membership in the Royal College of Surgeons of England, a Professorship at Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital in Hangzhou Zhejiang University, China. He has published in many journals and had authored chapters in two textbooks. His academic career in medicine has focused on education. He is a veteran of the Navy serving as Director of Trauma for Joint coalition Naval forces for Operation Iraqi Freedom. He retired from Medicine in 2020.

He is married to Sara Gaines, PharmD. He has five children and 10 grandchildren. He is active in the Church with CYE, RCIA and as a Fourth Degree Knight in Council 2290 of our Parish and serves in the Prison ministry at the Federal penitentiary in Lewisburg. He is active in the community as the Fatherhood counselor and director of Fatherhood Life disciples for Your Loving Choices Pregnancy Center and with Columbia- Montour Council Scouts BSA as a Unit Commissioner. He also owns two local businesses: Veterans Plaza in Orangeville and American Veterans LawnCare, where he is a partner.

Currently, he is completing a Master’s in theology and Educational Ministry at Catholic Distance University.

Please welcome Dr. Gregory to this exciting new ministry.