



AN EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE FROM A GRATEFUL COLLEGE STUDENT (and Parishioner of Our Holy Redeemer)



A couple of months ago, Sunday Mass-goers at Our Holy Redeemer may recall an “at the end of Mass” presentation given by a young woman named Margaret Anglim. Many people in the congregation remembered Margaret from the years when, after her Baptism and First Holy Communion, she answered the call to serve at the Altar in our “absolutely beautiful church” as an Altar Server. Others may not recall Margaret as much as they do her grandmother and grandfather, Mary Lou and Peter Anglim, who shared fifty-six years of Marriage, five children, and seven grandchildren before Peter passed away on 11 April 2017.

The purpose of Margaret’s talk can be summed up in her own words that I received in an e-mail a few days after she made her Faith-based appeal to Sunday Mass-goers:

Hi Father Arcoleo,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to thank you for allowing me to speak last weekend. I am thrilled to say that I have reached my fundraising goal for the Lourdes service trip, all thanks to the incredible support from Our Holy Redeemer parishioners! It was not lost on me that at the end of the 9:30 Mass, you mentioned offering supplemental support in the event that I fell short of my goal. That was such a kind and moving gesture, and I thank you for it. As I said, I have reached that goal (possibly even exceeded it) so I am pleased to say I will not need any additional support.

I was overwhelmed by the support, love, and prayers received from parishioners that I spoke with. It was beautiful and humbling to see people that I've known my whole life, and many who I've seen at Mass but never spoke to, offer me and my group financial and spiritual support.

I am currently working on a formal "thank you" from myself and the rest of the group. I know I would like to put something in the bulletin so that parishioners can read it, along with a picture of the group. Please let me know how I can do that.

Next Sunday, 12 August 2018, XIX Sunday in Ordinary Time, Margaret will have the opportunity to make that “formal thank you”. If you’re not planning on attending Mass on the Waterfront with the Reverend Monsignor Ralph Sommer (aka Father Ralph), Pastor of Saint Bernard’s in Levittown and one time Associate Pastor of Our Holy Redeemer (1983 – 1988), please plan on coming home for Holy Mass at either 9:30 A.M. or 11:30 A.M. when I hope that Margaret will not only offer that “formal thank you”, but when she will share with Mass-goers, the Faith-enriching experience of being in Lourdes, France with Saint Bernadette and of course Our Lady!

