



### **Monsignor Barry W. Wall**

Msgr Wall grew up in St. Lawrence Parish in New Bedford, graduating from Holy Family High School in New Bedford. He entered Cardinal O'Connell Minor Seminary in 1954. He continued his studies at St John's Seminary in Brighton, MA and was ordained on February 2, 1962 by Bishop James L. Connolly at St. Mary's Cathedral in Fall River.

Msgr Wall served in only five parishes during his ministry. "That averages out to about a decade in each. I was blessed to get to know the people in each parish well. It's an advantage in ministering to them. I think often of the people I've met over the last 50 years, their encouragement, and devotion. They are true workers of grace."

While the number of his parish assignments was comparatively low, there is a litany of diocesan appointments on his resume. Msgr Wall has served as spiritual director of the Legion of Mary, dean of the Fall River Deanery, chaplain of the Taunton Boy Scouts, moderator of the Taunton district of the Council of Catholic Women, co-director of the Taunton Deanery CCD program, interim chaplain at Bishop Cassidy High School, on the Pre-Cana Team, as chaplain of the Fall River chapter of Catholic nurses, and as moderator of the Fall River Catholic Women's Club.

Msgr Wall has been the diocesan archivist since July of 1999, a position he still holds in retirement.

One of Msgr Wall's most notable achievements was the completion of the massive history of the Diocese of Fall River project, of which he was the author and publisher. "Bearing Fruit By Streams of Waters," was published in 2003, in time for the diocese's celebration of its 100th anniversary and was presented to Pope John Paul II in August 2004.

Msgr Wall told *The Anchor* his interest in history was sparked in eighth grade at Holy Family School. Other of his publications include a necrology of priests, on which he collaborated with Father Andrews; a book commemorating the 75th anniversary of the consecration of St. Mary's Cathedral as well as a book celebrating the parish's 150th anniversary; and a visitor's guide to the diocese's Mother Church.

Msgr Wall, a resident at Cardinal Medeiros Residence in Fall River, remains very active, assisting other parishes as well as maintaining the diocesan archives.