



# Saint Andrew Church

# 100th Anniversary

**Emily M. Albert**  
*The Catholic Witness*

WAYNESBORO – Sept. 7 brought a day full of sunshine and celebration to the parishioners of Saint Andrew the Apostle Church, Waynesboro, as they gathered to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the church. The day was marked by a Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades with a luncheon following the Mass for all parishioners and their guests. State Representative Todd Rock presented Father Dennis Dalessandro, pastor, with an American flag that flew above the Capitol building in Harrisburg. The flag will be used in the gymnasium of St. Andrew School.

Also attending Mass and the reception were priests who have served the parish and Sisters from the religious communities that taught in the parish school. A special holy card featuring an image from the stained glass in the church was created to commemorate the anniversary.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades began by telling the parishioners, "It is truly a joy to be with you this morning as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of this beautiful church under the title of the great apostle, Saint Andrew, the brother of Saint Peter."

He continued, "This church is the third Catholic church in Waynesboro. The first was a wooden frame structure built at the site of the present cemetery."

Built in 1819 at a cost of \$400, the first Catholic Church served three families. A new building was constructed on the site of the present church in 1845, in 1893 St. Andrew achieved parish status and a rectory was built in 1894, then a new church in 1908 and a school in 1925. There are approximately 120 students in Kindergarten through grade six. The community of faith has grown from three families of about 18 in 1819 to approximately 740 families or 1,816 members.

Also during his homily, Bishop Rhoades spoke thoughtfully about the second reading, Chapter 13 of St. Paul's magnificent Letter to the Romans. In this reading, Bishop Rhoades explains, "Paul talks about one of the guiding principles of our Christian life: love as the fulfillment of the law." Further in his homily Bishop Rhoades asked, "Can others say of us as the pagans said of the early Christians: "See how they love one another?"

The homily brought together a wonderful celebration of a church that has stood for 100 years, and remembered the people and their love for each other as the true meaning of the church.



EMILY M. ALBERT, THE CATHOLIC WITNESS

Choir members lead the congregation in songs of praise and worship.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades incenses a new statue of St. Andrew.



The church's stained-glass windows cast reflections as parishioners listen to the bishop's homily.



State Representative Todd Rock presents Father Dennis Dalessandro, pastor, with an American flag that flew over the state Capitol building.