



50th anniversary to be celebrated

Omer H. and Rita M. Bertke of Maria Stein, Ohio, will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary with a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Maria Stein, Ohio, on Sunday, November 16, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. An open house hosted by their children and grandchildren will be held from 2-4 p.m., at the Maria Stein American Legion Hall.

Omer Bertke and the former Rita Marie Dahlinghaus were married at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Egypt, Ohio, on November 11, 1953, with Rev. Martin Rosengarten, C.P.P.S. officiating at 8:30 in the morning.

Attendants in the wedding party were Velma (Dahlinghaus) Spangler, sister of the bride; Stanley Bertke, brother of the groom; Rita (Enneking) Bertke, sister-in-law; and Lewis Bertke, brother of the groom. Maid of honor was Jovita (Bertke) Osterloh, sister of the groom; and Sr. Marcia Dahlinghaus, SFP, sister of the bride, was the flower girl.

The couple are the parents of eight children listed with their spouses: Steven and Dianne Bertke; Gerard Bertke and Gregg and Anita Bertke, all of New Bremen, Ohio; Patrick Bertke, Columbus, Ohio; Kathleen and Harold Bruns and Denise and Lawrence Kunk, of Versailles, Ohio; Mary Jo and Marvin Koester and Gerelyn and Raymond Moeller, Celina, Ohio. They have 17 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Omer is retired from Minster Farmers Co-op Exchange after 46 years and presently keeps busy working part time at Maria Stein Center. He also serves as deacon for St. John Parish of the Marion Catholic Community. Rita is employed at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center and both are active serving in various church ministries.

Mr. and Mrs. Omer Bertke today, top, and in 1953