



Rev. Joseph P. McGarry

July 1, 2004

Reverend Joseph P. McGarry, 75, the newly retired pastor at St. Peter Claver Church, West Hartford, died Thursday, July 1, 2004, at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford. Born in Youngstown, Ohio, the son of the late John T. and Isabel Price McGarry, he was a graduate of St. Ignatius High 47 in Cleveland. His family moved to Connecticut that year. He attended St. Thomas Seminary, Bloomfield and St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester, NY. Fr. McGarry was ordained at St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford on May 19, 1955, and received a Master's Degree in Pastoral Counseling from Iona College in NY. Father was active in both community and church organizations in the parishes he served. He was a corporator of St. Francis Hospital in Hartford. When not ministering to his parishioners, he enjoyed his garden and traveling. He owned a home in Charlestown RI for over 30 years. He was a retired Lt. Colonel with the CT Air National Guard AFRes, 103d Combat Support Squadron TAC. Fr. McGarry was stationed at several parishes throughout Connecticut including St. Justin in Hartford, St. Patrick in Waterbury, St. Francis in New Haven, St. Gabriel in Windsor and beginning in 1988 as pastor of St. Peter Claver in West Hartford until his retirement on June 30, 2004. He also served a three year term beginning in 1991 on the Presbyteral Council. He is survived by his sisters; Isabel T. McGarry of Charlestown, RI, Leila Smolenski of New London, many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. He was predeceased by his sister Clare M. Skelley. Funeral services will begin Tuesday July 6th with the reception of his

body at 2:00 p.m. to the Parish Center of St. Peter Claver Church, 47 Pleasant St. West Hartford. Calling hours will be from 2-5 p.m. Fr. McGarry will then be transferred to the church for the Parish Mass beginning at 7:00 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. Burial will be private in New London, CT. The Molloy Funeral Home, West Hartford is assisting with arrangements. Fr. McGarry's family request memorial donations be made to St. Peter Claver Church, 47 Pleasant St. West Hartford, CT 06107, St. Francis Church, 397 Ferry St. New Haven, CT 06513, or a charity of the donor's choice.

Tribute Wall



“ I want to give my condelescences on behalf of fr mcgarry. I remember him very fomdly of him. His spirit will live on in church. sincerely,

Helen Crouch###imported-begin###helen crouch###imported-end##

July 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I want to send my condslences to the Mcgarry family. He was a wonderful man. We were so blessed to have him serve our parish for 12 yrs. May he rest in Peace.

With Sympathy,
Esther Gaetano###imported-begin###esther###imported-end##

July 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Fr. Joe was a great guy and always had words of wisdom to impart on anyone lucky enough to be in his company. Although he was a relative, I did not get to see him often enough and unfortunately it was usually at the funeral of a relative. He was the celebrant at my wedding though, and those are memories that I will always cherish.###imported-begin##Janet Barrows Abt###imported-end##

July 13, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I was stunned and terribly, terribly saddened to read of the loss of Father McGarry. I will truly miss his kindness and the wise, understanding advice that he has always given me over many years. Whenever I needed to seek his counsel, he somehow always found time in the midst of his very busy schedule. He is in my prayers, although I am sure that a priest of such devotion and hard work must surely be with God now. I would like to send my very sincere sympathy to his family at the loss of such a wonderful family member.
Elizabeth Stanton Colleran##imported-begin##Elizabeth Colleran##imported-end##

July 08, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Fr. Joe was a life long inspiration to me. As a relative, I saw him often and he was always wonderful to be with. We will miss him.##imported-begin##Robert Lawrence Barrows##imported-end##

July 07, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I had the pleasure of serving w/ Joe at St. Gabriel's School as a teacher and then ptincipal, He was always warm and reassuring even when we faced hard decisions. He was a great man and good listener. My he rest peasefully##imported-begin##richard hogan##imported-end##

July 06, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mcgarry Family,

We our deepest sympathy to the family. The Webb Family remember Fr. McGarry very fondly we were blessed to have him serve our church St. Francis in New Haven, Connecticut. We hope he rest in eternal peace in the Heavens above. He is gone but his spirit is still with us.

*Our deepest condolence,
Webb Family##imported-begin##leslie##imported-end##*

July 05, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear McGarry Family -

We are broken hearted over the passing of Father McGarry. He was so kind to our family and to myself while I have fought cancer. We take comfort knowing that he is watching over us with Jesus and all of the other angels. God Bless You, Father McGarry.

Kim, Ken, Tessa and Torrie Green##imported-begin##Kim Green##imported-end##

July 05, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Father was such an important part of our family. He guided us in our time of need and at our happiest times. Our prayers are with the family. God bless you all.##imported-begin##Joseph, Maritza, David and Erin O'Connell##imported-end##*

July 05, 2004 at 12:00 AM