



Diocese
of
Cleveland

Cathedral Square

C- 8/2009

7 January 2009

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Reverend and Dear Father,

The Reverend William J. Johnson
Retired Senior Associate, Saint Anselm Parish, Chesterland

died Tuesday evening, 6 January, at the Regina Health Center in Richfield, after receiving the prayerful support and consolation of the Sacraments.


William Joseph Johnson, the son of the late William J. and Mary (nee Nealon) Johnson, was born on 26 May 1925, in Cleveland, Ohio. He was educated at Saint Thomas Aquinas Elementary School, Cathedral Latin, Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit, Michigan and Saint Mary Seminary, Cleveland. On 29 April 1950, Bishop Edward F. Hoban ordained him to the priesthood in the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist for the service of the Diocese of Cleveland.

Father Johnson's first assignment was as an assistant at Saint Martha Parish in Akron. On 7 January 1955, he was transferred to Holy Family Parish in Stow. On 21 June 1960, he was appointed assistant at Christ the King Parish in East Cleveland where he served until 2 October 1968, when he became chaplain of Saint Vincent Charity Hospital in Cleveland. On 1 July 1977, Father Johnson was transferred to the chaplaincy of Parma Community Hospital where he served until 24 June 1980, when he was appointed Senior Associate at Saint Raphael Parish in Bay Village. On 30 January 1986, he became Senior Associate at Saint Anselm Parish in Chesterland. On 26 May 1995, he retired. After his retirement, he resided at Saint Helen Parish in Newbury and provided pastoral assistance there. In recent years, his health deteriorated and he moved to the Regina Health Care Center.

On Friday, 9 January, the wake will begin with the reception of the body and the singing of Vespers at 3:00 p.m. in Saint Anselm Church at 12969 Chillicothe Road, Chesterland. The wake will continue until 8:00 p.m. On Saturday, 10 January, the wake will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will continue until the beginning of the Funeral Mass which starts at 11:00 a.m. in Saint Anselm Church. Bishop Richard G. Lennon will be the principal celebrant. Burial will take place in the family plot in Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland.

In accord with the provisions of the Marian Pact, please try to attend and concelebrate the Funeral Liturgy, offer Mass for him as you are able and cause him to be remembered and prayed for in the appropriate public prayers of the Church. May Father William Johnson and all our brother priests, deacons, and bishops who have died, live forever in the joy of the Resurrection.

Sincerely in Christ,


Sister Therese Guerin Sullivan, S.P., J.C.L.
Chancellor