

Fr. Charles Kelly, SCJ

1936-2007

Rarely, did one ever hear Fr. Chuck referred to — even in formal occasions — as “Charles” or “Fr. Charles.” He was simply “Fr. Chuck.” The name seemed to reflect his no-nonsense approach to ministry.

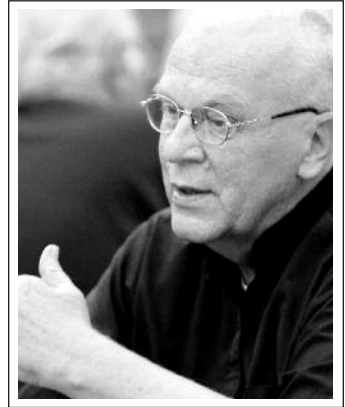
Born in Stamford, Connecticut in 1936, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps before applying for candidacy with the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

Fr. Chuck professed his first vows with the community in 1961 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1971. He was a graduate of Kilroe Seminary in Honesdale, Penn., and Sacred Heart Monastery (now Sacred Heart School of Theology) in Hales Corners.

As did many, Fr. Chuck returned to the seminary soon after ordination to teach. He taught at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Lenox, Mass., from 1970-1973. From there he went to St. Cecilia parish in San Antonio, Texas (1973-1978) and south to Brownsville, where he was at Our Lady of Good Council (1978-1983). For a brief period, he also ministered at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Raymondville.

From 1984 to 1987, Fr. Chuck served at St. Joan of Arc parish in Victorville, Calif. He then had the opportunity to serve in the missions. From 1987-1992, Fr. Chuck was a missionary in Chile. When he returned to the States, he ministered at Holy Name Church in Houston (1992-2003) and Our Lady of Guadalupe in Raymondville (2003-2006).

He retired and joined the Villa Maria community in 2007.



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