

Fr. Frank Burshnick, SCJ

1927-2009

Fr. Frank Burshnick, SCJ, died on February 21, 2020, in Pinellas Park, FL. Originally from Forest City, PA, he was 82 and had been a member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart for 53 years. In May, 2020, he would have celebrated his 50th anniversary of priesthood.

His first assignment after ordination was as a seminary teacher. He then moved to Texas, where he served at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Brownsville, OLG in Raymondville, St. Cecilia in San Antonio, and Prince of Peace in Lyford.

During his years in the Rio Grande Valley he often assisted at a refugee center established by the bishop of Brownsville.

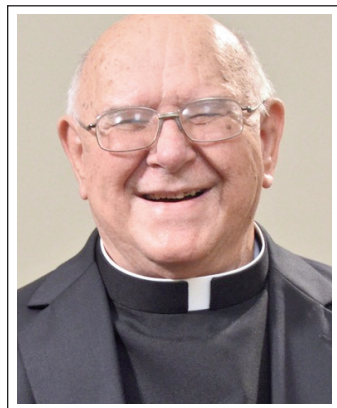
In 1984 he moved to Mississippi, where he ministered at the parishes of Sacred Heart in Walls and Christ the King in Southaven.

In 2007, Fr. Frank retired and joined the Sacred Heart Community in Pinellas Park, where he died just after getting ready to leave the house to celebrate Mass.

“A man of faith, love and patience” is how Fr. Jim Walters, SCJ, remembered Fr. Frank during the memorial service at Sacred Heart at Monastery Lake. “Always welcoming,” said Fr. Ed Kilianski, SCJ. “A gentle man filled with compassion for others,” added Fr. Richard MacDonald, SCJ.

The province celebrated the life of Fr. Frank, with a wake and Mass at on February 28 at SHML. Fr. Richard MacDonald was homilist, and Fr. Quang Nguyen, SCJ, vice superior, was the main celebrant.

In Florida, services were on February 25. Among the ten concelebrants were several priests from the diocese of St. Petersburg. Also in attendance were parishioners from St. Brendan’s parish, where Fr. Frank often celebrated Mass, the Pinellas Hope Homeless Shelter (Fr. Frank visited with people at the shelter), and the local Indonesian Catholic community.



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