



Rev. Francis G. McCloskey

September 20, 1939 - February 5, 2019

Albany-Rev. Francis G. McCloskey, 79, entered Eternal Life Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at Teresian House surrounded by his family and in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Born in Brooklyn, he was the son of Francis and Sheila Brennan McCloskey.

Mr. McCloskey attended St. Francis Xavier School and St. Augustine High School, both in Brooklyn, and St. Eunan's College, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, Ireland. He received degrees from St. Peter's College, Wexford, Ireland and Catholic University of America Theological College. Father McCloskey was ordained a Roman Catholic Priest for the Diocese of Albany on May 25, 1963 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Albany, NY.

Father McCloskey served the good people of the Albany Diocese in many assignments, including St. Patrick's High School, Catskill, NY (1963-65), Annunciation Church, Ilion, NY (1965-66), Albany Medical Center Hospital Chaplain (1966-70), St. John Church, Rensselaer, NY (1970-72), St. Jude Church, Wynantskill, NY (1973-75), St. Ambrose Church, Latham, NY (1975-77), St. Bridget Church, Copake Falls, NY (1977-81) and many Charismatic Renewal movements since 1981. During "The Troubles" in Ireland, he was involved with reconciliation of Catholics, Protestants, and political prisoners, and helped rebuild border roads. He founded "Christian Ireland Ministries" and a news service exclusively to promote peace in Ireland. Since the 1980s, he

dedicated his priesthood to public advocacy for the unborn. As a street witness, he organized prayer vigils, and celebrated prolife Masses.

He was the beloved brother of James McCloskey (Maureen) and the late Ann Fitzgerald, Maureen Broderick, George McCloskey; brother-in-law of Fionula McCloskey and Edward Broderick; Beth Lynch devoted friend to Fr. McCloskey; many loving nieces and nephews survive.

Reception of the Body will be offered Friday, February 8, 2019 at 8:30 am at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Albany, NY 12206; relatives, friends, brother Priests and Religious may visit with Father McCloskey's family until 10:30 am, when his Concelebrated Funeral Mass will be celebrated.

The Rite of Committal will be held at St. Bridget's New Cemetery, Copake Falls, NY immediately following the Funeral Mass.

Those wishing to remember Rev. Francis G. McCloskey in a special way may send a contribution to Teresian House, 200 Washington Ave. Ext., Albany, NY 12203, or 40 Days for Life/Schenectady and 40 Days for Life/Albany.

To leave a message for the family, please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Cemetery Details

St. Bridget's New Cemetery

8074 State Route 22
Copake Falls, NY 12517
(518) 329-4711

Tribute Wall

BO

“ I used to sing in the folk group led by fr going around saying mass during the charismatic renewa.somehow I got separated from him.years later bless God I met him 1block from where I was living.He was headquared across from the abortion clinic.the long n short of it, he' knocked on my door,an entrance prohibited halfway house out of the blue to my sublime delight,took me to lunch and continued to do so for some time.never knew y he stopped.in 2026 am heartbroken to find out why

Brian Oneill - April 26 at 06:04 PM

BO

It is a comfort to know he's met my mom and dad, he's gotten to see my cousin Chloe who he ministered to for years,etc.

Brian Oneill - April 26 at 06:11 PM

JP

“ I had the honor of attending Fr. McCloskey's ordination in 1963 and celebrated a few Masses with him as an altar boy @ Sacred Heart Church in Queens, NY. Peace, Father Frank.

Jack T. Philbin - October 24, 2025 at 12:50 AM

BM

“ I was just reading over some of my many communications with Fr. Francis during the bad days of the Troubles in Northern Ireland. He was a bright light in a very dark time. He encouraged my efforts and always was a beacon for peace. I decided I wanted to track him down and thank him for his support in those difficult times. Alas I did find him, but not the way I had hoped.
I cherish fond memories of our interaction. Rev. Francis you will always have a special place in my heart. Thank you

Bill McGimpsey - June 12, 2024 at 05:47 PM



“ Rev. Francis G. McCloskey

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ He always spoke out for life, especially for those innocent, who can't speak out. He was filled with the passion of the Holy Spirit and was on a mission from God to teach us to always Respect Life. He succeeded with us kids. He was blessed with a wonderful family (the McCloskeys) and their love and he was driven to let others know "Chose love, chose life over destruction". Thou Shall Not Kill is one of the 10 Commandments we must take so seriously and many do not. He wanted us to take it serious and speak out and witness. We do now. He succeeded there as well as many of us do this and stand for Life. "Blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus." That the womb is a sacred and designed to be a safe, peaceful, nurturing place. We understand your life mission and we loved the passion and dedication you brought towards honoring Gods Commandments. His message to us that you delivered with such passion and to honor Our Father. There have been tough choices in our lives but we always leaned towards love and respect of all life. Thank you for being a good role model for us kids and we truly needed to hear it in the times we were growing up. You were courageous and committed to your calling.

Noreen Albright - February 23, 2019 at 11:05 AM



“ He was a pro life priest in every sense. I was so happy to see him lobbying with a prolife group. He was always an inspiration and so needed..Thank you Father..✝️💕💕💕

Shirley Maguire - February 08, 2019 at 08:10 AM

JC

“ *My Sympathy to Father McCloskey's family. I remember Father when he was at St. John's in Rensselaer Ny.
Sincerely,*

John Cardazzi - February 07, 2019 at 08:31 PM

MY

“ *My condolences to the family of Father Francis McCloskey. He was an inspiration to all of us in the Respect Life movement here in Dutchess County. I have fond memories of him spending time with us each week at our prayer vigils outside the Planned Parenthood abortion clinic in Poughkeepsie.. Afterwards, he would celebrate Mass for us in nearby chapels, then accompany us at lunch. We loved the hymns and prayers he wrote for our use. May God give him the honored place in heaven he so richly deserves.
Respectfully, Michael Yannette.*

Michael Yannette - February 07, 2019 at 02:03 PM