



## Rev. Kenneth J. Doyle

April 3, 1940 - October 28, 2022

Albany, NY-Reverend Kenneth J. Doyle was born peacefully into Eternal Life on October 28, 2022 at Teresian House in Albany, NY. He was 82 years old. He was the proud son of W. Kenneth and Sallie Shea Doyle of Troy, NY.

Fr. Doyle graduated from Catholic Central High School in 1957. He began his seminary education at Mater Christi Seminary in Albany, NY and completed it at The Theological College, Catholic University in Washington, D.C.. He was ordained in 1966 by Bishop Edward Maginn.

A man of many talents and interests, Fr. Doyle earned his law degree at Albany Law School while serving as Editor of The Evangelist and Chaplain at Academy of the Sacred Heart. He went on to travel with Pope Saint John Paul II, interviewing pontiffs in both English and Italian, acting as Rome's Bureau Chief of the National Catholic News Service. In addition to a number of other roles, he was a NYS Catholic Conference lobbyist, Director of Media Relations for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Chancellor of Public Information for the Albany Diocese. He also served on many boards and committees throughout his career including St. Peter's Hospital Board of Directors, Vice Chairman of the Whalen Foundation, Inc., and Chair of the Albany International Airport Authority.

Fr. Doyle may be remembered more for his role as a humble parish priest

than award-winning pillar of his community. Pastor at the Parish of Mater Christi (formerly St Catherine of Siena) in Albany and sacramental minister for St. Thomas the Apostle in Cherry Valley, St. John's/St. Joseph's in Rensselaer and St. Mary's in Clinton Heights, Fr. Doyle celebrated baptisms, weddings, funerals and much more for several thousand families. He advocated for the poor, donated to multiple organizations, and counseled many readers through the "Question Box" published in The Evangelist and other Catholic News publications. Perhaps above all of his varied roles, Fr. Doyle was a faithful friend. He loved his family and treasured his time with them. Aside from his intellect and experience, Fr. Doyle will be remembered for his unmatched sense of humor, infectious laugh, and love of life. Cheering at a Notre Dame game, entertaining friends on the golf course or at the track, or enjoying his favorite meals across the capital region, none who knew him were left without an impression. His family and countless friends, are profoundly grateful to God for the gift of Fr. Ken Doyle; our lives were made better for having known and loved him. He will be missed by all immensely.

In addition to his parents, Fr. Doyle is predeceased by his sister Sally Marie Doyle and brother-in-law Robert G. Sochor. He is survived by his sister Mary Ellen Doyle Sochor, his nephew Kenneth J. Sochor (Brooks), his niece Paula Marie Sochor (Mickie), and numerous truly-beloved cousins and friends.

The Rite of Reception of the Body will be celebrated in the Parish of Mater Christi, Friday, November 4, 2022 at 3:00 pm. Visitation will then continue until 7:00 pm. Please enter the church from the parking lot entrance.

Father Doyle's Funeral Mass will be concelebrated at the Parish of Mater Christi Saturday, November 5, 2022 at 10:00 am. The Mass can be viewed on the Parish home webpage <https://www.mcalbany.org/>

The Rite of Committal will be held at St. Peter's Cemetery, Troy, NY

immediately following the Funeral Mass.

To leave a special message for the family please visit [www.McveighFuneralHome.com](http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com)

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Reverend Kenneth J. Doyle Retired Priests' Fund at The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany. 40 N. Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12203.

"It is the greatest use of a life to give it for a cause that outlasts it." ~ William James

# Cemetery Details

## St. Peter's Cemetery

Oakwood Ave  
Troy, NY

# Previous Events

## Reception of the Body

NOV 4. 3:00 PM (ET)

Parish of Mater Christi  
40 Hopewell St  
Albany, NY 12208-1505  
(518) 489-3204

## Visitation

NOV 4. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Parish of Mater Christi  
40 Hopewell St  
Albany, NY 12208-1505  
(518) 489-3204

## Service

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NOV 5. 10:00 AM (ET)

Parish of Mater Christi  
40 Hopewell St  
Albany, NY 12208-1505  
(518) 489-3204

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. Kenneth J. Doyle*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *Our sincere condolences. We were married by Fr. Ken in 1980. And stayed in contact with him over the years. May he rest with our Father forever. Peace and all good. Col. (AL) Ret. Bill Edwards and Maura Edwards*

**Bill Edwards** - November 10, 2022 at 06:25 PM



“ *My condolences to Ken's family. His father & mine Edward Gosselin (Gosselin Motors, Studebaker dealer @ Middleburg & 6th Ave., Troy) attended school together. A long friendship. When my parents passed, Ken Concelebrated their mass @ St. John the Baptist in Schaghticoke. No disrespect by not calling him Fr. He wanted us to call him Ken. Dad enjoyed their long conversations. Wish I could have enjoyed his company in later years. Especially this week since my husband passed Sunday. Think of him often. Blessings to you all. Marcia Gosselin-Bain, Cossayuna Lake, NY*



**Marcia Gosselin-Bain** - November 09, 2022 at 11:09 AM

BC

“*Mary Ellen, I was so sorry to learn of Ken's death. I have many fond memories of Ken, as well as of you, Sally, and your parents when we were all growing up together on Elmgrove Avenue in Troy. I take comfort in knowing that Ken is now reunited with Sally and your parents. I have prayed for Ken, and my prayers have been with you and your family.*

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**Bob Castellani** - November 06, 2022 at 12:09 PM

FA

“*Father Doyle was a gift from God. We were so blessed to have known him and to benefit from his kindness, his love, his service and his humor. He will be missed and never forgotten. Prayers for his family and friends. ❤️ Wally and Frances (Shannon) Akstull*

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**Frances Shannon Akstull** - November 05, 2022 at 07:18 AM

MB

“*When we lived in Kinderhook and attended St John the Baptist Church in Valatie, Fr Ken was a Sunday sacramental minister. Our children loved Fr Ken's homilies, his humor and his ability to put scripture in understandable and practical terms. We loved the humor and good nature of this wonderful man and priest. He will be missed.*

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**Marty and Sally Beckman** - November 05, 2022 at 12:55 AM

DE

“ Father Doyle served as the chaplain for the Doane Stuart School where I was a boarding student in the early 80's. Each night Father Doyle would come visit us and often we would play UNO with him and enjoy his predictable but quite amusing jokes. He was loved by all of us. For me he was the father I had lost for my own dad passed away in 1969.

Throughout my life he has been a constant. I spoke to him over the years, and I also visited him in Italy, D.C, and most recently in Albany in the summer of 2021. And when I was to be married in 1995 he came to Georgetown D.C and did me the great honor of officiating the ceremony.

There are no words to express the deep gratitude and love I have and will have for Father Doyle. Before his passing, I dedicated a book I am writing on public education to him. His words, "all children are my children," were my inspiration to become an educator and it is because of him I was able to show my students how the power of love can have an everlasting impression on any and all children.

I love you Father Doyle and I will miss you. Please watch over all the boarding school girls who knew and adored you at Doane Stuart.

His loves endures,

Lana Fiorentino Early

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Dr. Lana Fiorentino Early - November 04, 2022 at 02:19 PM



BA

“ *To Paula and the Family of Father Doyle:*

*Unfortunately, I will be out of town for Father's services, but please know he remains in my thoughts and prayers, as do you.*

*He was truly a man of unparalleled devotion, faith, and compassion; a friend to countless numbers of people, mentor to many, and shepherd to the believers.*

*I will miss his laugh, his counsel, and, of course, his presence at Saratoga, Rivers, and the Big East tournament.*

*God Bless; may he rest in peace.*

*Bob Van Amburgh*

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**Bob Van Amburgh** - November 03, 2022 at 08:31 PM

RG

“ *I remember Kenny from CCHS and his always cheerful and enthusiastic personality plus his pride in his dirty white buck shoes. :) He has certainly gave all to this life and there is no doubt the Lord will greet with great gladness. Ray Girard (Class of 1956)*

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**Raymond Girard** - November 02, 2022 at 01:17 PM

SS

“ *Father Ken Doyle was a great friend to me and my family. Whenever I needed his help or advice I could count on him. There we're so many interactions that the most important ones stand out... my sister's illness and eventual death...my parents passing...the baptism of our grandson...he was by our side. Rest in peace ...I will smile when I think of him ..Shaun Seymour*

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**Shaun Seymour** - November 02, 2022 at 09:40 AM

RH

“ Ken Doyle was a great Priest, Friend and Mentor. We had connections with Our Lady Help of Christians which we both shared as our First Assignment but a few years apart. Ken was so brilliant yet a friend to everyone no matter who they were either rich or poor, young or old. Ken reached thousands of people from his Press Assignments in the united States and in Rome.

*Rest in Peace Ken.*

*Fr. Bob Hohenstein*

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**Robert Hohenstein** - November 01, 2022 at 07:39 PM

JP

“ Father Doyle was a gentle giant. His pastoral ministry was what every family would hope for. He visited my mother regularly, attended her 90th birthday party, and was there at hospice when at 95 she was called Home. Surely Fr Doyle is seated at the Lord's banquet table reaping the harvest of his goodness and love to others.

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**Judy Pinto** - November 01, 2022 at 06:36 PM

TC

“*Father Doyle was an early influence in my life. First as my camp counsellor at Camp Tekakwitha ("where the sun shines down on Lake Lucerne"), a friend and fellow seminarian of my late brother Reavy and friend to my late sister Mary Jane Carroll. He and Father Young were powerful examples of the importance of community service. At a moment of indecision, he encouraged me to accept an offer to join the Peace Corps and that experience changed my life and has given me a platform for my life long advocacy for Africa and Africans. As I live in Arlington, Virginia, I will be unable to attend the funeral. My condolences to his family and many friends. Tony Carroll*

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**tony carroll** - November 01, 2022 at 04:38 PM

MN

“*After his retirement, Fr. Doyle helped out with Masses everywhere. Went to his retirement party at Mater Christi and learned of all the work he was involved with, a hard working Priest all the way. My condolences to the family. I will miss seeing him on the Altar.*

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**Michael F Nally** - November 01, 2022 at 01:49 PM

ME

“*My precious memory of Father Doyle came during my first year of teaching CCD at Mater Christi. One Sunday morning he made a visit to my classroom. I watched as he spoke in his quiet, calming, rhythmic manner to my students and saw the effect he had on each of them. He truly walked in God's light and he shared God's love everywhere he went. Rest In Peace Father. You were so very loved.*

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**Mary-Jo Ehrlich** - November 01, 2022 at 01:02 PM

MT

“ I first met Father Ken in 1966 during a religion class at Cardinal McCloskey HS....he was so "down to earth" Years went by and I saw him again in 1981 at St Catherine of Siena Church which was our new parish after our move....I remembered when Father Doyle celebrated the 8am mass and when it came time for distributing communion, he said to me "Body of Christ Marisa".....he remembered my name from 1966 and uniquely gained my admiration for his memory. I am truly thankful for God lending Father Ken to us even if it was for a short while.

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**MARISA TRAYNOR** - November 01, 2022 at 10:44 AM

PS

“ Father Ken exemplified what a priest should be. He was known for his intelligent homilies, his approachability, his humor and his friendship.

*Betsy and I will say a special prayer for this fine man.*

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**Paul Sullivan** - November 01, 2022 at 09:24 AM

JL

“ Never a better representative of Jesus has walked this Earth. Fr. Doyle was so kind to me and my family at St. Catherine's. He always made my son laugh. As head of Saint Gregory's I often asked Fr. Ken to celebrate Mass for the students. He always said yes with a smile. He loved the kids so much. This faithful servant of God has earned his rest. I will miss you friend.

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**Jeff Loomis** - November 01, 2022 at 09:13 AM

JC

“ My condolences to Father Doyle's family. Father Doyle was a sacramental minister at St John's St Joseph Rensselaer. I watched Father Doyle on the internet streamed masses. He was always friendly warmth and caring.  
Sincerely.

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**JOHN CARDAZZI** - November 01, 2022 at 08:08 AM

SA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Sharon Alexander** - October 31, 2022 at 08:42 PM

KR

“ I first met Father “Rock”Doyle when he was a seminarian and a camp counselor at Camp Tekawitha. He was one of the kindest, smartest priests I have ever known! RIP my friend

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**Ken Ringler** - October 31, 2022 at 07:59 PM

MA

“ When I was 12 years old, I remember Father Doyle as the priest at St. John's in Valatie, NY. I remember his kindness and his smile. He truly exemplified the love of Jesus.

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**Mary Ann Albano** - October 31, 2022 at 06:54 PM

GP

“ *Rock Doyle has been a friend since 1959. There are too many things to remember. What I remember most was the year we spent together in Rome and the years we spent at Camp Tekakwitha. He will be missed by me and by many others. Fr Gordon seeds Polenz.*

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**Gordon Polenz** - October 31, 2022 at 02:22 PM

DD

*I first met Father Doyle, then Mr. Doyle when he was the waterfront director at Camp Techawithie many decades ago. Even then I knew he was someone special.*

*Since then I ran into him on occasion when I was working around the state capitol. Without a doubt he will be missed*

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**Dave DeMarco** - November 01, 2022 at 09:33 AM

PP

*I've known Ken since high school, through the seminary and beyond. He cared, and this has been apparent in his life as a priest. Ken was my room mate in the seminary for a year...the stories!!!! My love and condolences to Mary Ellen and family Phil Palladino*

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**Phil Palladino** - November 03, 2022 at 09:43 AM

BA

*Mary Ellen*

*May Father Ken RIP. I remember him with the whole Doyle family from the 50's and 60's. He was truly destined to be a great priest and his was that and more. A great reflection on your parents too. My and my brothers thoughts are with you.*

*Bill Amyot*

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**Bill Amyot** - November 03, 2022 at 05:37 PM



*I only "met" Fr. Doyle through his "Question Corner" column. It was the first thing I read when I received our diocesan paper each week. His gentle and thoughtful replies always impressed me, and I was sad to see that he had died. I will miss his humor and insight.*

*Linda Furmanek, Louisville, KY*

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**Linda Furmanek** - May 21, 2023 at 09:35 AM