



## The Reverend William H. Pape

March 9, 1943 - December 6, 2022

Albany, NY-The Reverend William H. Pape died peacefully on December 6, 2022 at Teresian House in Albany, NY after a long illness. A native of Ravenna, he was born March 9, 1943 to the late Rocco and Nancy (Frangella) Pape. He is survived by his sister-in-law Delphine Pape and many nieces, nephews and cousins. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brothers Joseph, John, Carmino, Alfred, Edward, Lawrence and Robert. As the youngest of eight brothers, he had a deep love of family and he treasured time spent with them.

Father Pape's faith, vocation and lifelong friendships were formed throughout his education at St. Patrick's School, Ravenna; Christian Brothers Academy, Albany; Mater Christi Seminary, Albany; Our Lady of Angels Seminary, Glenmont and St. Mauer Seminary, Indianapolis. He also studied at St. John's University, Collegeville, MN.

He was ordained to the Roman Catholic Priesthood at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany by the Most Reverend Edwin B. Broderick, D.D. PhD, Bishop of Albany on May 30, 1970.

He served at St. John the Baptist, Greenville; St. Mary's Church and Bishop Scully High School, Amsterdam; and The Church of St. Peter, Saratoga

Springs. He was the pastor of the combined parishes of St. Joseph, St. Michael and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Amsterdam and was also the dean of Montgomery County. Father Pape was Director of Pastoral Care and Chaplain at St. Mary's Hospital, Troy where he ministered to the patients and the staff of the hospital. He would often joke that he also earned his medical degree there. His final assignment brought him full circle back to The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception where he became Rector in July, 1994. Here he served and nurtured his parish with dedication while also overseeing the restoration of the "Mother Church" of the Diocese of Albany. He had a deep love for the history, the purpose and the future of the both the cathedral parish community and the building itself.

Father Pape loved the liturgy of the mass. After his retirement it brought him great joy to say mass in various churches throughout the diocese and later for his fellow residents at the Teresian House.

He served on several church boards and was active in area ecumenical clergy associations. In 2014 he was honored by St. Peters Health Partners as 'Clergy of the Year.'

Father Pape was known as a kind, compassionate and warm person. He easily drew people to him through laughter. He offered counsel to countless people and had a special ability to bring out the best in them. He truly lived his life to help others which gave him great joy.

Father Pape's family would like to thank the entire staff at Teresian House for their love and compassionate care. In addition, they are grateful to his many friends and former parishioners who made a difference in his life through their love and affection for him.

The Rite of Reception of the Body will be celebrated Monday, December 12th from 4-7PM at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Evening Prayer will be offered at 6:45.

Mass of Christian Burial will be Tuesday, December 13th at 10AM at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The Mass may be viewed on the parish YouTube page at <https://youtube.com/@cathedraloftheimmaculateco2582>

The Rite of Committal will be held at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Blaisdell Ave., Coeymans, NY immediately following the Funeral Mass.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Cathedral Restoration Fund, 125 Eagle Street, Albany, NY 12202

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

# Cemetery Details

## St. Patrick's Cemetery

Blaisdell Ave.  
Coeymans, NY 12045

# Previous Events

## Reception of the Body

DEC 12. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
Corner of Eagle Street and Madison Avenue  
Albany, NY 12202  
(518) 463-4447

## Evening Prayer

DEC 12. 6:45 PM (ET)

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
Corner of Eagle Street and Madison Avenue  
Albany, NY 12202  
(518) 463-4447

## Service

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DEC 13. 10:00 AM (ET)

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
Corner of Eagle Street and Madison Avenue  
Albany, NY 12202  
(518) 463-4447

# Tribute Wall



“ *The Reverend William H. Pape*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *I met Father Pape when I was at a very low point. I had been divorced and was feeling like a failure. Father Pape helped me through what ended up being a year long annulment process. I had been married in the Catholic Church, but wasn't Catholic. I began to attend mass at The Cathedral and found my home. I went through the RCIA and he suggested I serve as an Altar server. I did, for 11 years. I lost touch after he retired, but I owe him a huge debt of gratitude. He was never judgemental, always looking to reconciliation. He was one of a kind will be missed by many. Rest dear one, you have earned it. Love, Dawn*

**Dawn Carolus** - June 10, 2023 at 08:39 PM



“ *Lynn lit a candle in memory of The Reverend William H. Pape*



**lynn** - March 25, 2023 at 06:14 PM

JM

“ *Fr Pape was a wonderful man and awesome priest. We had the great gift of hearing him preach at our Our Lady of the Snow Parish in Grafton, NY where he came many times during our transition period. He was not in good health at the time but made sure he came to spread God's wonderful blessings upon us. Thank you Fr Pape for being there when we needed you. God Bless you on your way to Heaven!!!! Jamie & Iryna Meehan*

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**Jamie Meehan** - December 12, 2022 at 08:56 AM

JK

“ *Our deepest condolences. Father Pape was an exceptional priest. John & Carol Kearney*

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**John Kearney** - December 11, 2022 at 08:50 AM

CC

“ *I had the privilege of working with Father Pape for many years at St. Marys Hospital. His obituary describes him perfectly. He was a very kind, compassionate priest and often able to bring people together through laughter. For sure, we did try to provide him with a medical degree!  
We were honored to have him join us at our first St. Marys Hospital reunion back in May of this year where there was a constant line of former employees waiting to talk to him!  
Forever in our hearts! Rest in peace Father Pape.*

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**Carol Crucetti** - December 10, 2022 at 09:25 AM

MR

*to the Family of Father Bill Pape, Father Pape was a true man of God, who Ministered so compassionately to everyone but so very present to the ill and those in their final stage of life. He did great things quietly and had the keen insight and integrity to introduce new concepts to the community which would enhance the quality of care to people in the church communities that were ill and in need of services and those marginalized . He introduced the Parish Nursing Concept to Father Francis DuBois in Latham and Father McTavey in Cohoes which quickly assisted many ill patients, and Educated countless people for many years until the programs ceased due to lack of funding.He worked tirelessly at the Cathedral both in Leadership and service to the poor, and people in recovery with Mental Health Issues . He had a beautiful trusted smile which insured a sense of trust and care to the people. He truly walked humbly with God and his quiet deeds will forever be remembered. May he Rest in Peace. Sincerely, Mrs. Murat Acemoglu,(Nancy, RN)*

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**Mrs Nancy Acemoglu, RN** - December 13, 2022 at 01:19 AM

GS

*My heart has been so sad since the moment I read of Father Pape's passing. I met Bill in 1974; he was an associate pastor at The Church of St Peter in Saratoga. I was a young mother with 3 small children and a husband hospitalized in Schenectady in a coma. Bill was one of several special people who grounded me, guided me and loved my children and me during the four months until my husband's passing. He taught me what real faith is, and what it means to live it, through words and deeds.... and I clung to his teachings. Over the years we connected often. I "followed" Bill on his priestly journey which ended at the Cathedral and then to his retirement. I know he loved wherever he was, but he really loved being at the Cathedral. The years of his failing health were difficult, but as the homilist at his funeral said, "he was determined". I will miss him; I will miss that he's no longer only a phone call away. But, my heart is filled with loving memories and deep gratitude for the gift of knowing and loving Father Bill Pape.*

*Ginny Scavuzzo  
Saratoga Springs, NY*

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**Ginny Scavuzzo** - December 20, 2022 at 01:45 PM

LY

*Fr. Pape was the people's priest...He lead my religious instructions class and I learned so much from him as a role model. One of the strongest people I've ever known. God Bless You Father Pape.*

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**lynn** - March 25, 2023 at 06:07 PM

SJ

*Rest in Peace Fr. Pape.  
Maryellen & Steve Stofelano, Jr.*

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**Steve Stofelano JR** - December 11, 2025 at 06:19 AM