

Fr. Tom E. Wehinger

November 1, 1935 - May 23, 2014

Fr. Thomas E. Wehinger, age 78, died peacefully on May 23, 2014 in his home, surrounded by his dear friends and family. He was born on November 1, 1935 to Cecil and Mary Wehinger in Mansfield, Ohio.

Fr. Tom was known for his gentleness, patience and dignity. In his early years of the priesthood he was involved with the Catholic Family Movement and ministering to the Spanish Speaking community. He was the first priest involved in Cursillo, the first priest to initiate Christ Renews His Parish in the Toledo Diocese 1977, and the first priest spiritual director for Teens Encounter Christ in Tiffin 1967-1968. Fr. Tom initiated Operation Love in 1967 and engaged 75 Tiffin Franciscan Sisters to minister to the migrants in Sandusky and Seneca Counties. His assignments included: Saint Mary Parish, Vermilion, Saint John the Baptist Parish, Toledo Saints Peter and Paul Parish, Toledo, Saint Joseph Parish, Maumee, Saint Mary Parish, Vermilion, Little Flower of Jesus Parish, Toledo, Saint Mary Parish, Tiffin, Saint Mary Parish, Leipsic, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Bono, Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Defiance, Saint Michael the Archangel Parish, St. Michael's Ridge, Saint Joseph Parish, Maumee, and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Toledo, where he retired in 2007. Fr. Tom also served as the Dean of the Defiance Deanery from 1976-1981 and was a member of the Alliance of Pastors for Parish Renewal in the 1970's.

Since retiring from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, he was active in ministering to the incarcerated men and to some women in the many prisons in Ohio and one in Michigan.

Fr. Tom was the Celebrant of the Eucharist every weekend at St. John XXIII Catholic Community, and at the parishes of Genoa and Oak Harbor. He also frequently ministered the Sacrament of The Anointing of the Sick to those at hospice, and frequently visited those hospitalized and home-bound.

Fr. Tom was preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Mary Wehinger and his two twin brothers Dick and Chuck. He is survived by his nephews Jim and Kenneth Wehinger, his niece Lisa Berber, uncles Richard and Frank Wehinger and many cousins.

He is also survived by the Pollnow Family whom he has considered his second family for the past 37 years, and by many who loved him.

Visitation will take place on Tuesday, May 27 from 3-8 p.m. at the Queen of Peace Chapel, 6832 Convent Blvd. in Sylvania, with a Scripture Service and a "Sharing of Memories" at 7. The Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 28 at the Queen of Peace Chapel, with a visitation beginning at 9:30. Burial will be at Resurrection Cemetery.

Those wishing to contribute in Fr. Tom Wehinger's memory can donate to the Diocese of Toledo Priest's Retirement Fund, Hospice of NW Ohio or the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania. Coyle Funeral Home is assisting with the funeral arrangements. Please view Fr. Tom's tribute video, share a memory, or offer condolences at www.CoyleFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

5725 Hill Ave
Toledo, OH 43615

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 27. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Queen of Peace Chapel
6832 Covent Blvd.
Sylvania, OH 43560

Tribute Wall

SM

“ We will miss you dearly Fr. Tom you are now safe in the Lords arms.



Stephannie M - May 28, 2014 at 08:21 AM

LL

“ We will miss Fr. Tom and will never forget him. We love him and are grateful for his visits. The men of the Catholic community at Richland Correctional

Lynne Lukach - May 27, 2014 at 08:36 PM

BB

“ May 24, 1985 I married my best friend, David Bennett. Fr. Tom married us and it was so great to be with the two most important men in my life. Fr. Tom Wehinger believed in me so much that he asked me to be St. Joseph's representative for the Toledo Diocese. And, I promised him and myself that I would never let him down. I called on him so many times, told him about our two children. I always sent a birthday card every year (it was easy to remember) because my "nana" had the same birthday. Numerous holiday cards and lots of love to the man I so cared about. I will miss him tremendously. With a broken heart, I wish his family and numerous friends, who loved him so much, my deepest sympathy. Just knowing that he will be in "Heaven" with Jesus is a sure sign that I will be okay. He will always be in my heart and in my prayers. Good-bye for Now Fr. Tom, until we meet again. David and I will always think of you every anniversary we have together Much Love, David and Bridget Bennett

Bridget Bennett - May 27, 2014 at 07:48 PM

JR

“ To the Family of Fr. Tom, My husband & I are ushers at Our Lady of Lourdes in Genoa, we were privileged to enjoy many conversations with Fr. Tom as he stood in the vestibule awaiting those coming into church. He was a truly wonderful spiritual leader an excellent example of a "good shepherd" of the flock. We will miss him here at our Parish, May the Perpetual Light Shine Upon Him & Give Him Eternal Rest-Amen John & Linda Reitzel

John & Linda Reitzel - May 27, 2014 at 06:49 PM

TV

“ There can't be many people who only "liked" Father Tom. He was someone to "really love". He cared so much about the members of his flock, like taking young people out to breakfast because he wanted them to know each other, and possibly date. When he baptized a baby, he carried the baby, high in the air, up and down the center aisle, so everyone could all experience the holiness of this new Christian child. Father Tom didn't worry about his needs, he drove his old car up to the 200 mile mark, and often dug into his own pockets when someone was in need. Father Tom will never be forgotten, and we will pray to him, especially in front of waterfalls. Theresa Valtin, Maumee St. Joseph's

Theresa Valtin - May 27, 2014 at 10:01 AM

CH

“ *Fathr Tom was one of the kindest, gentlest people I have ever met. To me, he was Jesus here on earth. He was there for the family when my Mother passed away and came to the house to give her a final blessing after she had completed her earthly journey. I will always remember his compassion and grace. He always treated every individual as the most important person in the entire world and as a child of Christ. I will never forget him.*

Carol Hens

Carol Hens - May 27, 2014 at 09:36 AM

CV

“ *1 file added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE*



COYLE FUNERAL HOME VIDEOS - May 27, 2014 at 08:38 AM



I'm really going to miss him

Diane Andrzejak - May 27, 2014 at 12:05 PM



“ Fr. Tom was one of the kindest, gentlest, and most compassionate people I've ever had the honor of knowing. I met him for the first time during preschool while attending Our Lady of Lourdes elementary school, and instantly knew he was someone that would leave an imprint on my heart. At the young age of 5 years old, barbies and glitter were all that caught my attention, but the second I met Fr. Tom I knew he was special. I didn't understand why then, but in no time it became perfectly clear. At 25 years of age I can say the glow of Fr. Tom's heart has never faded, and now that he's finally home, Heaven is a more beautiful place.

Four months ago when my father passed away from stage 4 lymphoma cancer/congestive heart failure, I wanted Fr. Tom to give the service at his funeral. Although retired, he offered to come pay his respects and to pray with my family. He recited a beautiful prayer, held my hand, and made me feel safe in a time of devastation. I closed my eyes with comfort in his voice, and knew deep in my heart I wasn't the only one hearing his prayer, my father heard too.

Although my heart aches for the loss of his life, I feel comfort knowing he's no longer in pain. Along with my father, I know he'll be an angel that watches over me, protects me, and gives me strength. I'm so grateful to have known Fr. Tom, and I'll continue to live by the good that shined from his heart.

Forever and ever<3

Nikki Yuse - May 27, 2014 at 01:38 AM

MM

“ Fr. Tom was like a second Grandfather to me.
If it wasn't for him, I don't think my faith would have been nearly as strong.
He was always up for conversation and knew everything about me. I could trust that man with my life and knew it was in good hands.
The day he retired from Lourdes, I remember how devastated I was thinking that I would never see him again.. but every time I did, he would call me by name and welcome me into open arms.
I am deeply sorry for all of his family that lost him.
He was the kindest, gentlest, and most caring man I know.
I feel honored to have him in my life.

-Marissa Murray

Marissa Murray - May 26, 2014 at 09:04 PM

MK

“ Fr. Tom was one of the kindest, gentlest and most compassionate priests that I have had the privilege of knowing and working with. I feel very blessed to have known him and I was so sorry to hear of his death. He will be missed by so many!!

Sr. Mary Sue Kennedy, OP

Mary Sue Kennedy - May 26, 2014 at 02:48 PM

TF

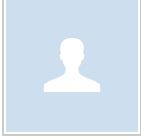
“ Fr. Tom was a great man, he was an inspriation to everyone who was a part of Our Lady of Lourdes. He will be missed, but I know he fullyevoted his life to our lord and will comfortably welcomed into heaven.

The Ayers family - May 26, 2014 at 11:59 AM

TF

That's supposed to say "The Ayers Family"

The Ayers family - May 26, 2014 at 12:00 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Fr. Tom E. Wehinger.*



May 26, 2014 at 11:47 AM

JH

“ *to the family of father tom wehinger sorry to hear about your son he was a nice priest at our lady of Lourdes church we loved his smiling face even at the church festival from the family of janet helminiak*

janet helminiak - May 26, 2014 at 10:48 AM

FR

“ *Thank You Fr. Tom for your humble kindness in Serving the Parishes of Oak Harbor, St. Boniface and Genoa Our Lady of Lourdes. You will be missed.*

Fr. David L. Ritchie - May 26, 2014 at 07:20 AM

ML

“ *Father Tom helped me go through the process of baptism in 5th grade. He was kind, patient and a great friend all throughout my time at Our Lady of Lourdes. He will be greatly missed and I will never forget all that he did for me and my family when we were in times of need. We love you Father Tom, may you be resting peacefully in heaven.*

Molly Livingston - May 25, 2014 at 11:19 PM

MC

“ *To the Dear Family of Fr. Thomas Wehinger, I help in the sacristy at my life long parish of Our Lady Of Lourdes in Genoa, Ohio. I truly want you to know from my heart, I loved Fr. Tom, he was the most caring, kind, understanding and warm friend beside being our Priest every other week-end. He would arrive a little before me & I was greeted with that infectious warm smile, a big Hello & a gentle hug. Over the time that he came to our Twinned Parishes, I know he was loved by all, his homilies were ones you would not want him to stop - because he was so interesting with a wealth of knowledge. While he was here, I lost my Mother at age 92yrs who I cared for in her later years. He gave me strength when I needed it. So it is with a heavy heart I must say Good-Bye to Fr. Tom, but I know he is forever in my heart. May the Perpetual Light Shine Upon Him- Amen Lovingly MaryAnn Cashen*

MaryAnn H. Cashen - May 25, 2014 at 09:27 PM

MK

“ *Father Tom was a wondering Priest . We will miss you Father Tom
Thank You for being are Priest at Our Lady of Lourdes.*

Love Michelle and Steve and Megan Kuebler.

Michelle Kuebler - May 25, 2014 at 07:55 PM

LS

“ *Father Tom was an inspiration to everyone he came in contact with.
His years as Pastor at St. Joe's in Maumee were full of his caring,
giving inspiration. He could bring joy from a smile and a hug and
was always ready to help in any way he could. The Good Lord has
him smiling on all of us and I am sure he is ready to speak to God
on our behalf. Rest in Peace Dear Friend! Linda and Will Szymanski*

Linda Szymanski - May 25, 2014 at 01:19 PM



*Father Tom was an inspirational man. His faith was evident to all who
met him. Father Tom embodied the warmth and gentleness of Jesus in
his service to others.*

Mike Wood - May 26, 2014 at 11:39 AM

CB

“ Fr. Tom was a great priest at our church and I hope our lord Jesus Christ will hold him close in his hands and keep him safe!

Christopher Browning - May 25, 2014 at 10:38 AM

SA

“ We loved Fr. Tom! He was our pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes. He was a good man, kind and gentle. His sermons were inspirational and touched out hearts. We moved and found a new parish. Imagine our joy to find him at St. John XXIII! We will greatly miss his smile and words of encouragement. Sending prayers to his family and friends who loved him.

Stephenie and Clark Alkire - May 25, 2014 at 10:08 AM



“ Fr. Tom was a mighty man, full of love and giving of self. Heaven is rejoicing!

Kathy Carder McKee - May 25, 2014 at 08:55 AM

DE

“ Thank you Fr. Tom for always having a smile on your face! Your love for The Lord and for us (your St Joes students) was obvious and has carries with us through the years. Rest in Peace.

DeAnna (Burke) Emborski - May 25, 2014 at 07:08 AM