



## Monsignor James W. McLoughlin

November 19, 1939 - May 13, 2023

Monsignor James W. McLoughlin died on Saturday, May 13, 2023, in Huntley, where he was a resident.

Monsignor was born on November 19, 1939, in Chicago, IL., to James J. McLoughlin and Loretta J. McCarthy. Monsignor attended Quigley High School Seminary, Chicago (1953-1957). Monsignor McLoughlin attended Loras College, Dubuque, IA (1957-61) where he received a bachelor's degree in history. He then attended Seminary at Catholic University of America, Washington, DC (1961-65) where he received his Theological Formation. He also received a master's degree in religious education at the Catholic University of America.

Monsignor McLoughlin was ordained a priest by the Most Reverend Loras T. Lane at St. James Parish, Rockford, on May 29, 1965. Monsignor's first assignment was in 1965 as Parochial Vicar at St. Therese of Jesus Parish, Aurora (1965-1966). In 1966 Monsignor was appointed Parochial Vicar at St. Mary Parish in Elgin (1966-1969). Later that same year he was appointed Director of the Religious Education Office for the Diocese of Rockford (1969-1976). Monsignor was then appointed Pastor at St. Michael Parish in Galena (1976-1983); and was later assigned as Pastor of St. Peter Parish, Geneva (1983-1997).

A life changing experience occurred during Monsignor's service as pastor in Geneva. Monsignor, along with two other diocesan priests; Msgr. Tom Dempsey and Msgr. Bill McDonnell, were part of a pilgrimage to the Holy Land when on June 14, 1985, on the return flight home from the pilgrimage, their TWA flight 847 was hijacked by terrorists. While many passengers were released in the first few days, Monsignor McLoughlin and Msgr. Dempsey were among 39 Americans, many from the Rockford Diocese, held hostage by Amal Militia in Beirut for 17 days. After being released Monsignor McLoughlin said of the ordeal, "It's not that we can't be angry, but to forgive is an appropriate Gospel message at this time."

Following his Geneva pastorate, Monsignor McLoughlin was assigned Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Woodstock (1997-2007). He was also assigned Pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Hartland (2001-2007). On January 24, 2003, he received the Papal Honor of Chaplain of the Holy Father giving him the title Monsignor. He was appointed Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Richmond (2007-2011) and retired there from active ministry on July 1, 2011.

Monsignor is predeceased by his parents, James and Loretta (McCarthy) McLoughlin; by his great nephew, Nicholas Lovett; and brother-in-law, Casey Persak.

Monsignor is survived by his sisters, Burian Persak, Marianne Lovett, Kathleen (Robert) Smith; and by his brothers, Dennis McLoughlin (Vanice), and John (Elizabeth) McLoughlin; and by many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 AM on Thursday, May 18, at St. Mary Catholic Church, 10307 Dundee Rd. in Huntley. Burial will follow in Ascension Cemetery in Libertyville, IL.

Visitation will take place on Wednesday, May 17th, from 4:00-8:00 p.m., at St.

Mary Catholic Church, 10307 Dundee Road in Huntley and will continue on Thursday prior to mass from 10 to 11 AM.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in his name may be directed to the St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Society.

# Cemetery Details

## Ascension Cemetery

1920 W. Buckley Rd  
Libertyville, IL 60048

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 17. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

St. Mary Catholic Church  
10307 Dundee Road  
Huntley, IL 60142

## Visitation

MAY 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary Catholic Church  
10307 Dundee Road  
Huntley, IL 60142

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary Catholic Church  
10307 Dundee Road  
Huntley, IL 60142



# Tribute Wall

MD

“ While at St. Peter's in Geneva, Illinois, and as Father McLoughlin he was the Pastor who resided over my (our) father's Funeral Service. He visited us at the Hospital in Geneva, Illinois, he come to our home on Elm Street. He changed his schedule to attend to our family, my brother Mark and Myself, Marcia Lynn Dittler. He said, his own father passed away under similar circumstances and wanted to be there for us. Fond memories of our time together and sharing. I actually promised to take him to dinner sometime. He said, I bet I wished my families home was in California , where I was living. That said, we lost track of each other, Tho, I did try to check in at St. Peter's once or twice and on -line....so if any of the family want to figure out getting together sometime to have a chat in "Father McLoughlin's honor....I am "game"!!!! A dear soul.....and very special to my brother and myself. Marcia Lynn Dittler ( Brother Mark Scott Dittler) With everything going on in the world these last few days it sure made me think of him, as I knew the story of him and the others on the T.W.A. Flight. He told me about it when we chatted. He was known to be long winded, and not sure if he knew but the Pall Bearers at my Father's Funeral actually took bets on the length of his Sermon and my brother and I sitting in the front had to hold back a few chuckles as the pallbearers set their watch timers when he got up to speak and was finished. It is making me "chuckle" now!!!! Now, I am getting long winded!!!! Many Blessings to all reading this, your friends, loved ones and family.

---

**Marcia Lynn Dittler** - March 03 at 05:05 PM

JH

“ Our deepest sympathies to the family & fellow priests of the Rockford diocese on the loss of Father McLaughlin. I'll health prevents us from paying our respects in person. Our thoughts & prayers are with you.

*Jack & Marla , Geneva.*

---

**Jack & Marla Hoelscher** - May 17, 2023 at 01:48 PM

SO

“ Monsignor Jim was very dear to my family. I was fortunate enough to enjoy time with him socially over the years including our annual Lake Geneva fun days. He was a trusted friend who always had time to listen. We worked side-by-side on the United In Faith campaign at St, Mary Woodstock, blowing past out Parish goal. In short. he was just a nice man, who loved God, and wanted to help others. I will miss my friend.

---

**Steve Otten** - May 16, 2023 at 04:19 PM