Rev Thomas Tom Kelley

BIRTH 8 Jan 1943
Titusville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, USA
DEATH 21 Feb 2005 (aged 62)
Midland, Midland County, Texas, USA
BURIAL Resthaven Memorial Park
Midland, Midland County, Texas, USA
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The Roman Catholic Diocese of San Angelo, and specifically the Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of San Juan in Midland, lost a most beloved priest after a valiant battle with cancer. Rev. Thomas “Tom” Kelley went to be in the bosom of the Lord from the Midland Memorial Hospital in Midland Feb. 21, 2005.
Rev. Tom was born in Titusville, Pa., Jan. 8, 1943, as the only son of DeAnna Heher Kelley and Spicer C. Kelley, who had two daughters. He attended the Cathedral Preparatory H.S., St. Mark Semina… ry H.S., and Gannon University, all in Erie; the St. Bonaventure University and Christ the King Seminary in Olean, N.Y., and the North American College in Rome. He was ordained on Dec. 21, 1967, at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. He received a degree in Theology from the Gregorian University in Rome and a master degree in education from Edinboro University in Edinboro, Pa.

The following are Rev. Tom’s assignments prior to the Bishop of Erie
agreeing to send Rev. Tom to the Diocese of San Angelo: from 1968 to 1972, he was a parochial vicar at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie; from 1972 to 1985, he served as faculty member, principal, vice-rector and finally rector of St. Mark Seminary in Erie; from 1985 to 1989, he returned to the North American College in Rome and served as the Academic Dean; from 1989 to 1990, he was the administrator of St. Michael parish in Greenville, Pa., and then served as pastor from 1990 to 1994. The Bishop of Erie then sent Rev. Tom to the San Angelo Diocese for a six-month period on July 5, 1994. He was officially attached, incardinated, to the Diocese of San Angelo Feb. 1, 2001.

His many assignments within the Diocese of San Angelo follow: his first assignment was as Parochial Vicar at St. Agnes and St. Joseph Churches in Fort Stockton; St. James Church in Sanderson; St. Isidore Mission in Coyanosa; and Our Lady of Lourdes Mission in Imperial. On Sept. 6, 1994, he became the Pastor of St. Agnes in Fort Stockton; the St. Isidore Mission in Coyanosa; and Our Lady of Lourdes Mission in Imperial. On Feb. 11, 1995, Rev. Tom received permission from the Bishop in Erie to remain in the San Angelo Diocese for another year beginning Jan. 5, 1995; on Oct. 10, 1995, the Bishop of Erie told Rev. Tom to return to Erie after Dec. 5, 1995; on Nov. 11, 1996, he received permission from the Erie Diocese to return to the San Angelo Diocese for three years effective Jan. 2, 1997; and on that date, he was assigned as Parochial Administrator of Our Lady of San Juan Church in Midland; on Feb. 1, 2001, Rev. Tom was incardinated into the San Angelo Diocese; on Aug. 8, 2003, he was assigned as Pastor of Our Lady of San Juan, where he served until his death, became the Director of Deaconate and guided thirty men of the Diocese, until they were ordained as Deacons of the Church. On Aug. 28, 2003, Bishop Pfeifer assigned Rev. Tom as Dean of the Midland/Odessa Deanery.

Throughout his priestly vocation Rev. Tom was a member of the following Boards and Committees: Continuing Education of Diocesan Priests, Ethics Committee of Greenville Regional Hospital, President of the Association of Eastern Region of College Seminaries, Papal Evaluation Team of American Seminaries, Priestly Formation Committee of the National Bishop’s Conference, the Seminary Board of the National Catholic Education Association, the Diocesan Priests’ Senate and Personnel Board.

Visitation of the body will be from 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the church prior to the Wake Service and at 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., prior to the Mass. The Wake Service and Rosary will be at 7 p.m. today at Our Lady of
San Juan Church in Midland, 1008 W. New Jersey St. The Rev. Bernard Gully will preside, and a bilingual homily, in English and Spanish, will be given by Deacons Sador Sotelo and Ignacio Villa. Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI, will be the main celebrant of the Funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 25, 2005, at Our Lady of San Juan Church. The Rev. Joseph D. Wolf will deliver the homily. Burial will immediately follow the funeral Mass in Resthaven Cemetery.

Rev. Tom's Mother, DeAnna Heher Kelley, died Jan. 11, 2003; and his father, Spicer C. Kelley died March 27, 2003. He is survived by his two sisters, Susan Dixon and husband, Kenneth, of Dyer, Ind., and Mary Margaret Gupta and her husband, B.D., of Swampscott, Maine. Rev. Tom is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

“Well done good and faithful servant. Enter into the kingdom of God.”

**Family Members**

**Parents**

- Spicer C. Kelley
  - 1913–2003
- DeAnna *Heher* Kelley
  - 1913–2003

*Calculated Relationship

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