Rev. Philip DeChico

The Rev. Philip DeChico, M.Div., S7, pastor of St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, Bonneville, entered God's eternal care on Saturday, February 25, 2006, at the Hanover Hospital. Born August 15, 1948, in Harrisburg, he was the son of the late Philip and Ruth DeChico. Rev. DeChico attended St. Patrick Cathedral Elementary School and Bishop McDevitt High School before being appointed to St. Mark's Seminary in 1965 to finish his last year in high school. Remaining at Saint Mark's for two additional years, he attended Gannon College before being transferred to St. Mary's College, St. Mary, Ky., to complete his B.A. degree in Philosophy. Philip did his Theology studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, Ohio, from 1970 to 1974, earning the Master of Divinity Degree, and being ordained April 27, 1974. The last of his formal education was done at the University of Scranton in Scranton, in Secondary Education, earning certification in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in Secondary Administration and Social Studies. He attended the University of Scranton in the evenings during his assignment to Our Lady of Lourdes Regional High School in Shamokin. Other assignments in his career include: assistant pastor at St. Joseph Church, York, from 1974-1976; assistant to the principal at Our Lady of Lourdes Regional High School, Shamokin, 1976-1979; principal at Our Lady of Lourdes Regional High School, Shamokin, 1979-1986; administrator at St. John the Baptist Church, Mt. Carmel, 1979-1986; principal at Lebanon Catholic High School, 1986-1996; parochial vicar at St. Catherine Laboure Parish, Harrisburg, 1997-1998; and pastor at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, (Bonneville) Gettysburg, 1998-present; as well as Catholic Campus Minister, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, from 1998 to the present. Philip is survived by one sister, Florence Dienno and her husband, Ernest; one niece, Linda Somers and her husband, Michael; one nephew, Eric Somers; and two great-nieces, Lynne Goldberg, her husband, David, and their children, Alyssa and Joshua, and Donna Conklin, her husband, Matthew, and their children, Timothy and Bradley. He was preceded in death by one brother, Samuel Meyers. A funeral liturgy will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 2, at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, 10 E. Hanover St., Bonneville, with the Rev. Joseph F. Gotwal as celebrant. A viewing will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thursday at the church. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 3, at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, with the Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of the Diocese of Harrisburg, as celebrant. A second viewing will also be held
from 8 to 11 a.m. on Friday at the church. Burial will be at 3:30 p.m. on Friday in the Dauphin Cemetery, Dauphin. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Rev. DeChico’s name may be made to St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, 10 E. Hanover St., Gettysburg, PA 17325. The Kenworthy Funeral Home, Inc., 66 E. Hanover St., Bonneauville, is assisting the family with the funeral arrangements.

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