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MAIN MENU

ROOS

Father Edward M. Roos

Posted Thursday, July 9, 2015 12:00 am

Father Edward M. Roos, a former pastor of St. Bernard's parish in White Plains, died June 24 at St. John's Riverside Hospital in Yonkers. He was 75.

He was pastor of St. Bernard's for 20 years, beginning in 1989.

Cardinal Dolan offered the Funeral Mass June 29 at St. Matthew's Church in Hastings-on-Hudson. The homilist was Father Owen J. Lafferty, a classmate of Father Roos from their years at St. Joseph's Seminary in Dunwoodie.

"He was certainly a very charitable person—very generous in helping people in his parish as well as his family," Father Lafferty said.

Father Roos, who suffered from Parkinson's disease with great grace, always had concerns for the parish and was known to ask if he was doing enough on behalf of the parishioners entrusted to his care, added Father Lafferty.

In his homily, Father Lafferty addressed the apostolate of suffering. "We are all called to minister in different ways. For some, it will be suffering." It is significant, he said, to turn one's suffering into something positive, such as by praying for the Church or for special intentions, and practicing patience and kindness to the others.

On a personal note, Father Lafferty recalled his classmate as a good student, and one who was cheerful, outgoing and possessed a keen sense of humor.

Father Roos also served as parochial vicar of SS. John and Paul parish in Larchmont from 1983 to 1989; St. Joseph's, Spring Valley, 1975 to 1983, and Our Lady of Refuge, the Bronx, 1966 to 1975.

His sister, Margaret Lauro, recalled a citation penned for the church bulletin of Our Lady of Refuge by the parish publicity committee in the mid-1970s. She is comforted by the citation, which, she said, stated the following: "He doesn't try to impress anyone—he doesn't have time—but his list of accomplishments is lengthy and most impressive."

She said her gentle brother was known to help people in a quiet way. And as her older brother, he taught her, growing up, by being patient and comforting. "He was a blessing to all our family, and I miss him," she said.

He retired in 2009.

Born in Mount Vernon, he attended St. Ann's School and St. Simon Stock High School, both of the Bronx. He began his studies for the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary in Kentucky then entered St. Joseph's Seminary. He was ordained in 1966.

He earned a master's in theology and a bachelor's in philosophy.

He is survived by his mother, Margaret; his sister, Margaret Lauro, and brother, Martin; three nephews and a niece, and a grandnephew and a grandniece.

He was preceded in death by his father, Martin.

Burial was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Valhalla.

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