Father Carl E. Bauer, Jr.

Father Carl E. Bauer, Jr., died Oct. 22, 2015, at the age of 78. He was born July 11, 1937, to Carl E. and Virginia Naegele Bauer in Wheeling. He was preceded in death by his parents and his two sisters, Virginia Bauer Ebbert and Mary Elizabeth Bauer. Father Bauer attended St. Mary’s Seminary and University in Baltimore—graduating from the university in 1959 and from seminary in 1963. He also obtained a master’s in education from Loyola College in Baltimore in 1962 and did advanced studies at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, from 1966-1967. Father Bauer was ordained to the priesthood at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling by Bishop Joseph H. Hodges in May 1963. Following his ordination, Father Bauer served as associate pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg, from 1963-1966. He also was a teacher and guidance counselor at Parkersburg Catholic High School, where he then served as principal from 1966-1969. He was director of the Seminary House of Studies in Wheeling from 1969-1974; pastor of Our Lady of Peace Parish in Wheeling from 1974-1986; dean of the Wheeling Deanery from 1976-1982; pastor of St. Mary Parish in Star City from 1986-2002; pastor of St. Ursula Parish in Pursglove from 1986-1994; and was vicar forane of the Clarksburg Vicariate from 1999-2002. Father Bauer also served as president of the
Presbyteral Council and chair of the Priests’ Personnel Committee and Continuing Education Committee. He was involved in education at all levels, serving as pastor of several Catholic schools and on a number of school boards. He also taught at Wheeling Jesuit University. Intent on implementing the renewal envisioned by the Second Vatican Council, Father Bauer served as spiritual director in the Christian Family Movement, Cursillo, Teens Encounter Christ, Engaged Encounter and Christ Renews His Parish. Inspired by the wisdom of St. Paul, he lived his ministry believing “that all things work together for those who love God and are called according to his word.” Father Bauer retired from active ministry June 12, 2002. He then moved to the rural Low Country of South Carolina, where he was charged with two small mission churches, helped in supply to several other parishes and was chaplain at a federal correctional institution. A memorial service was held in South Carolina. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary Parish in Star City Oct. 29. The presider for the Vigil Service was Father John DiBacco. Father Larry Dorsch was the celebrant of the Mass of Christian Burial and the homilist was Father Patsy Laquinta. Entombment was at Peace Gardens, St. Mary’s, Star City.