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Rev. Walter A. Sempko

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Rev. Walter A. Sempko, 94, of the Priests' Retirement Residence of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, 675 Rutherford Rd., Lower Paxton Twp., died Monday, October 2, 2017 in the Residence.

He was a graduate of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Philadelphia and was ordained a Priest on March 25, 1950 in St. Patrick Cathedral, Harrisburg. During his Priesthood, he served as long-time Chaplain to the Serra Club and Spiritual Moderator of the Legion of Mary. His assignments include serving as Parochial Vicar of St. Anthony of Padua, Ranshaw from 3/30/1950 to 8/3/1950, St. Patrick, Carlisle 8/3/1950-6/2/1951, St. Joseph, Hanover 6/2/1951-11/23/1951, Corpus Christi, Chambersburg 11/23/1951-5/23/1952, St. Anthony of Padua, Ranshaw 5/23/1952-9/9/1954, and St. Francis of Assisi, Harrisburg 9/9/1954-5/24/1960. He was named Pastor of Our Lady of Mercy, Roaring Creek 5/24/1960-6/1/1962, St. Joseph, Milton 6/1/1962-6/2/1967, St. John the Evangelist, Enhaut 6/2/1967-5/14/1975, and St. Joseph, Danville 5/14/1975-2/14/1983. He served as Chaplain of Villa Teresa Nursing Home from 2/14/1983-6/16/1998, when he retired.

He was the son of the late Peter S. and Pearl Podgorski Sempko and is survived by a niece, Barbara Turturro and her husband, Joseph of New York and a niece-in-law, Patricia Sempko of Kulpmont; and several great nieces and great nephews and great great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Charles and Leo Sempko; three sisters, Jeannette Terris, Stella Sempko and Angela Sempko; two nieces, Frances Murdza and Irene Marks; one nephew, Leo Sempko, Jr.; and two sisters-in-law, Mary Sempko and Irene Sempko.

Mass of Transferral will be celebrated on Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 7:00 pm in St. Catherine Labouré Roman Catholic Church, 4000 Derry St., Swatara Twp. with Most Rev. Ronald W. Gainer, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Harrisburg as the Principal Celebrant, Rev. Robert A. Yohe, Jr. as Homilist. A viewing will be held

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from after the Mass of Transferal until 9:00 pm in the church. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, October 6, 2017 at 11:00 am in St. Catherine Laboure Roman Catholic Church with Most Rev. Edward C. Malesic, Bishop of Greensburg, as the Principal Celebrant and Most Rev. William J. Waltersheid, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh as Homilist. Burial will be in St. Casimir's Cemetery, Marion Heights, PA. A viewing will be held on Friday from 9:30 am until 10:45 am in the church. Arrangements are being handled by Wiedeman Funeral Home, Steelton.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Bishop Joseph T. Daley Seminary Fund or the Priests' Retirement Residence, c/o Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, 4800 Union Deposit Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17111.

www.wiedemanfuneralhome.com

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-Rose Ciesluk

"Father Sempko, a pastor, friend, mentor, inspiration, holy..."

-Bill and Donnajean Gifford

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