



Photo added by Charles Zadora

## Rev John Raymond Gabalski

<b>BIRTH</b>	9 Jul 1922 Buffalo, Erie County, New York, USA
<b>DEATH</b>	9 Oct 2003 (aged 81) Buffalo, Erie County, New York, USA
<b>BURIAL</b>	Saint Stanislaus Roman Catholic Cemetery Cheektowaga, Erie County, New York, USA
<b>MEMORIAL ID</b>	80555889 ·



Added by Bill VanStone



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Rev. Msgr. John R. Gabalski, P.A., 81, was the long time pastor of St. Stanislaus Church and a well-known priest of the Western New York area.

"He has been a true patriarch, a rock-solid priest and an intrepid leader," said Bishop Henry J. Mansell of Msgr. Gabalski's passing. "He was powerful in his speech and even stronger in example. His inspiration will remain with us as long as we live." At his funeral, many of the people who encountered the priest over the years complimented his boundless energy.

"He was a priest's priest, a tireless worker," said David Szyjka, a member of the board of trustees. "He considered the parishioners of St. Stan's his second family. He was the foundation of the parish, and nothing was beyond his reach because everything (he did) was for God. He was the heart and soul of the East Side."

Msgr. Gabalski was pastor of St. Stanislaus when many neighborhood Poles left the East Side and moved to the suburbs. Regardless, many of those same people continued to attend Mass at the parish every week, and its pastor never judged the condition of the neighborhood or its residents.

Rev. Msgr. John Raymond Gabalski was born to John L. and Barbara Prelewicz Gabalski. He attended St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake, Michigan; DePaul University, Chicago; and Canisius College, Buffalo. He also attended the Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and the University of Detroit.

Following his graduation from SS. Cyril and Methodius

Seminary, Orchard Lake, Michigan, Msgr. Gabalski was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Buffalo, New York, by Bishop John F. O'Hara at St. Joseph's New Cathedral in Buffalo on May 22, 1948. Later that year, Msgr. Gabalski was back in Michigan teaching at St. Mary College in Orchard Lake, serving as a faculty member there until 1965.

He returned to Buffalo in 1965, serving briefly as assistant pastor at Resurrection Church, Cheektowaga and St. Florian Parish in Buffalo. In 1966, Msgr. Gabalski joined the faculty at the Diocesan Preparatory Seminary, Buffalo and served until 1974, when he was assigned as the pastor of Queen of Peace in Buffalo. He served there until 1978, when was assigned as pastor of St. Stanislaus, serving there until his passing.

He was also a member of the Polish Priests' Association, Knights of Columbus, Catholic War Veterans Association and the Holy Name Society.

## Family Members

### Parents



John L. Gabalski  
1893–1985



Barbara *Prelewicz*  
Gabalski  
1901–1971

### Siblings



Edmund C.  
Gabalski  
1926–2010

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