

Thomas J. McCarthy

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Thomas J. McCarthy

1924 - 2003

HOLYOKE - The Reverend Thomas J. McCarthy, the former Pastor of All Souls Roman Catholic Church in Springfield, died Sunday, June 8, 2003 at Holyoke Hospital. Born in Holyoke to Patrick and Annie McCarthy, who had emigrated from County Kerry, Ireland, Rev. McCarthy attended the former St. Jerome elementary and high schools, graduating in 1942. He received degrees from St. Charles College, Catonsville, MD in 1945 and studied philosophy at the Seminary of Philosophy, Montreal, Quebec. His preparations for the priesthood culminated in theological study at the Grand Seminary of St. Sulpice, also in Montreal. He was ordained in St. Michael's Cathedral on June 16, 1951 by Bishop Christopher J.; Weldon. In 1959, Rev. McCarthy served as a diocesan emissary to the Redemptionist Fathers of St. Augustine's Church in New San Juan, Puerto Rico. During his tenure there, as well as during his studies at the School of Linguistics at Georgetown University, he gained the practical knowledge and linguistic facility that made possible his successful apostolate among the Spanish speaking members of the Springfield Roman Catholic diocese, the

calling to which he devoted most of his years in he priesthood. Father McCarthy's first assignment was an assistant pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Springfield (1951-1968). He then served as assistant pastor at St. Mary's Parish, Westfield (1969-1973). His final assignment was to All Souls Parish, Springfield, where he served as pastor until 1992 when he retired because of illness. He was in his 52nd year of religious service when he entered into eternal life. An active participant in the Ahearn memorial pilgrimages to Canada for over 30 years, his ministerial efforts were widely recognized for building many bridges in the changing demographic and cultural landscape of the diocese. He is survived by one sister, Anna M. Brent of Holyoke; two nieces, Kathy A. Pateracki of Trumbull, CT and Patricia Lyman of Whitinsville, MA; and four nephews, Harold P. Brent of New York City, NY, Thomas M. Brent of Centreville, MD, John M. McCarthy of Barkhamsted, CT and Thomas McCarthy of Belmont, MA; and several grand and great-nieces and nephews. Father McCarthy was predeceased by three brothers, Eugene, Jerome and John McCarthy. A Con-celebrated Mass of Christian Burial will be held Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in St. Patrick's Chapel of St. Jerome Church, 169 Hampden Street, Holyoke. Burial will follow at St. Jerome Cemetery, Holyoke. Calling hours will be held Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. in St. Patrick's Chapel, and a vigil service will be held in the Chapel at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evening. Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home, 2049 Northampton Street, is in charge of arrangements. Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home 536-3843

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