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Rev. Gerard A. Lafleur

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Rev. Gerard A. Lafleur 1927 - 2011 CHICOPE - Reverend Gerard A. Lafleur, age 83, was called to Eternal Rest on Friday, June 10, 2011 at Mary's Meadow Nursing Home, surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Chicopee, MA on September 24, 1927. He was the thirteenth of fifteen children born to the late Leon and Alphonsine Lafleur. He grew up in the Willimansett area of Chicopee and graduated from Mt Carmel School. He attended Le Grande Seminary in Montreal, class of 1953. He was ordained a priest on May 30, 1953 at St. Michael's Cathedral, Springfield, MA by the Most Reverend Christopher J. Weldon, D.D., Bishop of Springfield. His first assignments were at

Springfield, Mercy Hospital and Greenfield, Farren Memorial Hospital. He was a curate at Holy Cross Parish in Springfield, St. George Parish in Chicopee, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. Theresa's in South Hadley. He also taught at Cathedral High School. In 1972 he was named pastor of St. Joseph's in Springfield where he served until 1987. In 1987 he became pastor of Assumption Parish in Chicopee until his retirement in 2007. He remained in residence at Assumption Parish until moving to Mary's Meadow in 2011. Throughout his life in the priesthood, Reverend Gerard A. Lafleur never turned down an assignment. He generously accepted many diocesan appointments including: Bishop's Commission for Clergy, Episcopal Vicar, Hampden East Vicariate, Ministry to Priests Program, Budget Advisory Committee, Dean of Hampden Central Deanery, Diocesan Building Commission, Presbyteral Council, Diocesan Consultor and Board of Consultors. He leaves his two brothers, Albert "Bob" Lafleur and his wife Phyllis of CT and Leon Lafleur Jr. and his wife Constance of Chicopee. He is predeceased by his four sisters: Sr. Leona Lafleur Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, Helen Perron and her husband Henry, Juliette Gingras and her husband Edmond and Gertrude Chatel and her husband Alphonse. He is also predeceased by his six brothers: Bernard and his wife Ruth, Marcel and his wife Georgette, Raymond and his wife Jeannette, Joseph William and his wives Eleanor and Norma, Gilbert and his wife Anita, and Vincent and his wife Constance. He leaves many loving nieces and nephews, including Reverend Jerome Gingras, and numerous grand nieces and grand nephews; all who shared a part of his celebrated life. He will be dearly missed by his family, priestly brothers, devoted parishioners and beloved friends. He was passionate about his ministry and lived each day humbly and joyously in service to God's people. Reverend Gerard Lafleur will lie in state at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Assumption Church, 104 Springfield St, Chicopee, MA on Tuesday, June 14, 2011. Reception of his body will take place at 4:00 P.M. followed by a viewing until 7:00 P.M., concluding with a vigil prayer service. Liturgy of Christian burial will be celebrated by the Most Reverend Timothy A. McDonnell, Bishop of Springfield on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at 11:00 A.M. at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Assumption Church. The people in attendance are then invited to join the funeral procession to his final resting place in Notre Dame Cemetery, South Hadley, MA. His funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Grise Funeral Home, 280 Springfield St, Chicopee, MA 01013. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Vocations Office of the Diocese, 65 Elliot Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

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30 Entries

Forty plus years ago, I was a student at Mount Holyoke College, and Fr. Lafleur was the Catholic Club advisor. It may have been one of his most difficult assignments. To this day, I appreciate and remember him - as a person and as a priest.

Mary Birks

June 29, 2011

Father Lafleur enriched my spiritual life beyond measure. I loved working for him at the rectory and getting to know his family. I will always hold them all close to my heart.

God hold each of you in His loving arms.

Love, Faith

Faith Nash

June 19, 2011

I will always remember your peaceful voice and how you always brought smiles to everyone who was fortunate enough to know you. We will miss you always Uncle Gerry, we know you are in good hands.

Tabbatha Lafleur-Corey

June 17, 2011

God bless you Father Lafleur. You were a tremendous friend to my mother. Many wishes of peace and love to your entire family. Anna Cruz, Chicopee

Anna Cruz

June 15, 2011

My deepest sympathy goes out to all who knew him, His LORD and SAVIOUR has him now.

Laurie Wagoner

June 15, 2011

Albert "Bob" Lafleur & wife Phyllis & Leon Lafleur Jr. & wife Constance....I am so sorry for your loss. Father Lafleur was such a good priest. I just loved him. He was always so very kind to me. I'll always remember him.

A donation was made in his memory to the Office of Vocations in Springfield.....Your cousin, Rita Granger Larrivee.....Derry, NH
mkevorkian@comcast.net

Rita Granger-Larrivee

June 15, 2011

Uncle Gerry you will live in our hearts forever and ever. It is God's wish for you to enjoy the Lord's presence whom you served so devotedly all your life. To also rejoice in the presence of your many brothers and sisters, my aunts and uncles, who you so eloquently eulogized and grieved for so passionately. We will miss you forever and ever.

Ralph & Juliette Lafleur

June 14, 2011

Another angel in heaven looking over us all. A truly great man who has given me so many wonderful memories. All the fun we had when I was in my tweens with the musicals we did in South Hadley for the building fund for St. Theresa's church. Then to reconnect when my son went to Assumption School was a great treat. We will always be grateful to you for all your help and guidance in getting all our paperwork filed and cleared with the Tribunal so we could get married. You will always be in our hearts.

Dawn Larder

June 14, 2011

To Leon & Connie and the rest of your family, my sincere sympathy on your loss.

Nancy Leone

June 14, 2011

We have known Fr LaFleur since he moved into the Assumption rectory in our neighborhood. He watched our son, Zack grow up and came to his graduation party. He always had a kind word, and enjoyed a good laugh. He was so supportive to us raising 2 foster children. He was a wonderful man, a blessing to many. He will be missed. Our sympathies to your family on your loss.

Jerre and Patti Hoffman

June 14, 2011

The world has lost a wonderful man who to me was a saint. Fr. Lafleur you are home now with the Lord. So much of what you taught us, you are now rejoicing in the presence of the saints and most importantly Jesus. I, and so many Fr. LaFleur, will miss your smile, your spirit, and your dedication to the priesthood and to the people who met you on a daily basis. I personally remember your voice singing an octave higher when you sang Alleluia before the Gospel to give harmony to the singing voices in the church. I thank you for your gentleness, your compassion, your concern. For the individual attention, you gave to people when you met them. For all the graces, you have shown to people every time someone asked you for your help. Fr. Lafleur, you have touched so many lives with your kind spirit and trueness as a friend to all who met you. I for one will never be able to thank you enough for all you have done for my family and me. You took care of God's children whenever we needed you. Fr. Lafleur we will miss you. Today, the world is darker with out your presence here. God blessed us and your family with your light in our lives. Let the eternal and perpetual light shine upon you forever. Amen.

Darlene Baptiste

June 14, 2011

Father Lafleur,

You will be in my thoughts & prayers.
No one could have ever asked for a nicer priest than you.

Lisa

Lisa Meserve

June 14, 2011

Fr. Lafleur, you will be in our thoughts and prayers. You are now with God forever in heaven. Please continue to watch over us. Love, Christine and Joey Perry

Christine Perry

June 14, 2011

My condolences to the family of Fr Gerard Lafleur. Fr Lafleur has been my friend ever since he retired after he connected the former Assumption Church, now Holy Name Church to Katoosa Parish in the diocese of Fort Portal, Uganda. The people of my diocese extend their condolences to the berieved family and his brother priests in the Springfield diocese. Fr Lafleur will be greatly missed. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Fr Adolf

Adolf Busobozi

June 14, 2011

Our Fr. Lafleur, you were always there for us at Assumption Church. Thank you for all you did for our Parish. Rest in peace.

Max Olbrych (your fish and chip man), Janet & Denise.

Janet Olbrych

June 14, 2011

Rest in Peace, Father Lafleur & watch over us. You always had good words for me & my family. Thank you for guiding us. I have known you since grammar school & lucky enough for my grandchildren to know you,also. Now, you are with my mom & Bill. She will be very happy to have you with her.
You are /were a very special person. A small man with a big heart.

Michelle Labonte

June 14, 2011

Thank you Uncle Gerry for the many blessings you bestowed on our family. Your dedication and kindness will never be forgotten. May you rest in peace.

Chris & Becky Rondeau

June 13, 2011

Our condolences and thoughts are with the Lafleur family. We were glad to have had the pleasure of his company at a picnic at Dan and Sue's home. A special man indeed.

Betty and Bill Willette

June 13, 2011

My condolences to the Lafleur family. I had but brief contact with Fr. Lafleur but he was always gracious and helpful. May God rest his soul.

Patrick Beauregard

June 13, 2011

He who lives in the hearts of the those left behind, never dies.

Dr. Alfred Davis

June 13, 2011

Please accept our deepest condolences on the loss of Father Lafleur. He was not only a good and kindly priest, he was a gentle man who had a quick wit and was full of fun especially with his family. He was an influence in my life, through my brother Gerry and his wife Denise, my dear friends Fran and wife Connie. He will be in our prayers.

Ray and Janet Boisselle

June 13, 2011

RIP My Great Uncle. Kevin Perron

Kevin Perron

June 13, 2011

Please accept our deepest condolences on the loss of Father Lafleur. He was such a kind and loving man. We were fortunate enough to have Father Lafleur perform our wedding ceremony...A day we will never forget. R.I.P. Father Lafleur your are going to be missed.

Mike and Lynn

June 13, 2011

My priesthood was highly enriched by Fr. Gerry, living with him at Assumption, all those years of my hospital Chaplaincy. He was a special person in my life. I will always miss him. May he now rest in the peace he so richly deserves.

Fr. Michael Devlin

Fr. Michael Devlin

June 13, 2011

Father LaFleur was the nicest priest that I've had the pleasure of knowing in my lifetime. As pastor at my grammar school - St Joseph St Thomas Aquinus, I remember how well he interacted with the children during mass. I had the pleasure of seeing him occasionally at Assumption where he still remembered me twenty years later. A very kind and gentle man- one of the greats. May he

rest in peace.

Christian Boucher (Springfield, MA)

Christian Boucher

June 13, 2011

To one of the nicest people I have ever met. Kind and compassionate. You will be greatly missed

Renelle Bonavita

June 13, 2011

Thank you for bringing me back to the church after a very long absence. If not for you I would just be another wandering lost soul. I will always remember you. May God have mercy on you and let you enter His Kingdom for eternity. Thank you again Gerry.

mike carmody

June 13, 2011

To you , the family of Father Lafleur, we offer our sincere sympathy on your great loss. We too will miss Father Gerry as he was so very good to us and we loved him very much. May he now be rewarded for all the good he has done throughout his priestly life. Sr. Lorraine & Denise Dalpe

June 13, 2011

I am very sorry for the loss of such a great, kind and loving person. He had such a calming voice to listen to at Mass. I had the pleasure of Uncle Gerry marrying me, baptizing all of my children, marrying my daughter and baptizing my grandchildren. We have been truly blessed for having him in our life. My sincere condolences. Missy

Marty & Missy Lafleur

June 13, 2011

Father Lafleur: A true servant of God and a guardian angel to Paul,Keith,Kim and Michelle and their families.

To the entire family my deepest sympathies in the loss of brother, uncle and great uncle.

Mary Carole Russell

June 13, 2011

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