

## Holy Cross Cemetery and Mortuary

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### Father Patrick Reilly

( April 13, 1934 - April 04, 2018 )

Monsignor Patrick Reilly, a longtime pastor at St. Robert Bellarmine church in Burbank has died following a brief illness. He was 83 years old.

Monsignor Patrick Reilly was born April 13, 1934 in County Longford in Ireland. He was the second son of Patrick and Margaret Reilly, one of eight children.



Patrick Reilly attended Puledey County Longford Primary School in the 1940's. At the age of 11, he won a scholarship to Moyne Grammar School in County Longford. He then attended Mungret Seminary Jesuit College in Limerick.

At the age of 20 Patrick Reilly boarded the Britannia to the United States, where he joined St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, California for four years. On May 1<sup>st</sup> 1958 Cardinal McIntyre ordained him priest for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at St. Vibiana's Cathedral. On May 10<sup>th</sup> 1958 Father Reilly performed his first marriage of his sister Bridget and Leonard Smith. In this same year he became a US citizen. He was then assigned to St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish in Los Angeles under Monsignor O'Carroll. In this parish he became actively involved in caring for the sick and made many visits to people in rest homes and convalescence hospitals, where he brought comfort to the sick there. Father Patrick Reilly trained all the Altar Boys at St. Ignatius and he was remembered by them for his great personality, his smile, his stories and discipline.

In 1963 Fr. Patrick Reilly was transferred to the Nativity Church in the Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles. This was a tumultuous time for the United States as many communities were struggling with the efforts of the Civil Rights Movement. In 1964 a major riot took place in the Watts neighborhood and this affected the Nativity Parish community. Fr. Patrick Reilly worked during this period where he helped and cared for the many people of the inner city neighborhood of Nativity Parish. In 1967 Fr. Patrick Reilly was transferred for two years to St Gregory Nazianzen Parish where he was an assistant to Bishop Timothy Manning.

In 1973 he was transferred to St Brendan Catholic Church and in 1976 Father Patrick Reilly became administrator of the Sacred Heart Parish of Covina. When Monsignor Collins retired to Ireland, Fr Pat Reilly was appointed Pastor by Cardinal Manning. During his stay in this parish, he showed his traits, his good sense of humor, personal

involvement, concern and fairness and spent endless hours with his parishioners. He made many visits to the local schools.

On January 21st 1983, Fr. Patrick Reilly was elevated to the title of Monsignor Reilly as he was appointed Chaplain by His Holiness St Pope John Paul II.

In 1986, Monsignor Patrick Reilly moved to St. Robert Bellarmine where he became the pastor. He continued to serve in that role until he retired. In his retirement, Monsignor Reilly remained an integral part of the St. Robert's Community while serving as Pastor Emeritus.

Monsignor Patrick Reilly had many hobbies. He was extremely fond of sports. In his teens, he loved playing football and swimming and in his later years his favorite sport being golf. His love of the game of golf was something he shared with various members of the St. Roberts community. Monsignor Reilly will be remembered by children of all ages, some now in adulthood for his many blessings and especially his fist bump to their forehead. On Sunday mornings they would line up to greet him to be bumped by him! Above all Monsignor Reilly will always be remembered for his welcoming smile, great sense of humor and joke telling but most importantly his love and faith towards every person he met. He spent many wonderful times in Ireland and England with his family. In all the years lived in the United States he only missed one year of going back to Ireland to visit his beloved family.

He is survived by his brother James, sisters Betty and Bridget, nieces Linda, Suzanne, Angela, Debbie, Lynda and nephews Colin, Patrick, Garry and Michael.

The Funeral Mass will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 11am at St. Robert Bellarmine, Burbank California.

He will be laid to rest at Holy Cross Cemetery in Culver City, California following Mass.