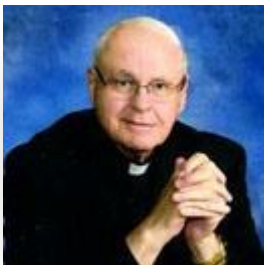


REVEREND PETER R. PILARSKI

1932 - 2017



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PILARSKI

REVEREND PETER R.

Age 84, of Pittsburgh, on Monday, October 9, 2017. Born November 27, 1932, to the late Robert and Gertrude (Steimer) Pilarski. He began his education at St. Stephen Elementary School in Hazelwood, going on to Central Catholic High School, in Oakland. He earned his BA from St. Vincent College, Latrobe, PA, in 1955. After attending St. Vincent Seminary, he was ordained by Bishop John J. Wright at St. Paul Cathedral, Pittsburgh on May 30, 1959. Upon ordination, he was assigned to Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, Frankstown Ave., in 1959, followed by Resurrection Parish, West Mifflin, in 1964. He went on to

serve in the United States Navy as a Chaplain during the Vietnam War. A heavily decorated member of the US Navy and having earned the rank of Captain, he retired from the Archdiocese for Military Services in 1994. Following his departure from the US Navy and after caring for his mother until the time of her death, he pastored the people of St. Januarius Parish, whom he loved, until his retirement in 2011. He was an Affiliated Christian Brother and Benedictine Oblate, designations that he treasured and deeply appreciated. Friends received Wednesday, 6-8 p.m. and Thursday, 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at SOXMAN FUNERAL HOMES, LTD./ ROTH CHAPEL, 7450 Saltsburg Road (at Universal Road), Penn Hills. A visitation will be held Friday, 9:00 a.m. until Mass of Christian Burial, celebrated by the Most Reverend David A. Zubik and homilist, Rev. Carl J. Gentile, at 11:00 a.m. in St. Januarius Parish, 1450 Renton Road, Plum, PA 15239. EVERYONE PLEASE MEET AT THE CHURCH. Interment with full military honors will follow in Calvary Cemetery, Hazelwood. To honor Fr. Pilarski's memory, donations may be made to Central Catholic High School, 4720 Fifth Ave., Pgh., PA 15213, or St. Vincent Seminary, Fr. Peter Pilarski's St. Januarius Scholarship Fund, 300 Fraser Purchase Rd., Latrobe, PA 15650.

To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our [Sympathy Store](#).

Published in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette from Oct. 11 to Oct. 12, 2017.

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See n

MEMORIAL EVENTS

OCT Visitation

11 06:00 - 08:00 PM

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OCT Visitation

12 02:00 - 04:00 PM

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OCT Visitation

12 06:00 - 08:00 PM

[Soxman Funeral Homes. Ltd. /Roth Chapel](#)

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OCT Visitation

13 09:00 - 11:00 AM

[St. Januarius Parish](#)

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OCT Mass of Christian Burial

13 11:00 AM

[St. Januarius Parish](#)

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[7450 Saltsburg Road \(at Universal Road\)](#)
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MEMORIES & CONDOLENCES

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30 entries

November 23, 2019

Father Pilarski was my Chaplain when he was stationed in Gaeta and through him I met my wife. Both my wife and myself are truly saddened to only find out now of his passing. He embodied everything that the Chaplain Corps stands for and more.

Ronnie Lamkin

October 20, 2019

I knew Fr. Pete when he was an LCDR Catholic Chaplain in the Navy, we served at the Navy's Refit Site One in Holy Loch, Scotland and I served as his voluntary Yeoman and Sacristan. He fostered in me a love for the Religious Life and an admiration of Thomas Merton. I will remember him as a great and caring Priest, and pray for his soul.

Rommel Miller

June 3, 2018

Father Pete, another great Hazelwood guy, will be missed by all. I can still remember the day he was ordained, from when I was a kid living below the tracks in Hazelwood.

Bob Thornton

January 18, 2018

Fr Pete has been a wonderful priest and friend to the O'Hara family of Edgewood, and now all over the USA. We met Fr. Pete through my brother Jim at Central Catholic. Fr Pete visited with us on many occasions and escorted my parents throughout Rome when they traveled there. I remember seeing Fr Pete at Bethesda Naval Hospital when he was there with the US Navy. We will miss you Fr. Pete. Please look after Dad, Fr Bill

Wiethorn, and all of our dear friends and family with you eternally.
Andy O'Hara

Andrew O'Hara

January 2, 2018

I served on board the USS Mount Whitney in the mid 1980s. Prior to Fr.Pete's arrival as chaplain we had no Catholic services on board so I served as Lay Eucharistic Minister while at sea. His arrival was a great blessing! We began a friendship that continued until the time of his death. In is an interesting side note that he once arranged for me to escort Brooke Shields to the National Prayer Breakfast and I accompanied him to Rome to tour the Vatican where we personally met Pope John Paul II. When Christmas cards began arriving this year and I didn't receive his, I knew there must have been a big problem. I Googled his name and learned of his passing in October. I am saddened at the news. I am sorry that I didn't know earlier. He was a wonderful man and he will be missed by many. I will pray for the repose of his soul! God bless you, Fr. Pete!

Ed Klaas

October 24, 2017

Fr. Pete was a mentor to all the young people of OLMBS. He was the worlds oldest teenager long before Dick Clark. He helped us to stay out of trouble and make good decisions. It doesnt surprise me that he went on to affect so many lives. May the angels welcome him into paradise.

Azzaro Joseph

October 24, 2017

Fr. Pete was the unofficial chaperone of all of the youngsters at OLMBS. He was the worlds oldest teenager long before Dick Clark. His words of wisdom kept many out of trouble while he helped us make the right decisions. May the angels welcome him into paradise.

Jo Azzaro

October 23, 2017

Father Pete taught me that a Priest can be as human as any other person while still imparting the spirituality of God. Playing basketball in front of the OLMBS Social Hall you were as likely to catch an elbow as you were a pat on the back and you didn't want to be caught by him when he was the "shark" in the Eastwood swimming pool (you better be ready for a very vigorous dunking)! He drew you closer to the Church and God in his own very common man human approach to life. A good man! Thanks, Father Peter McCormick

October 19, 2017

I am so sorry for your loss. I would like to share with you a positive thought from the Bible that had helped me in times of distress.

1 Pet 3:7 " throw all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you."

October 18, 2017

Rest in Peace, Fr. Peter. Thank you for being my Godfather and an influence in my vocation. Grant eternal rest unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

John Hagge

Friend

October 14, 2017

Rest in peace, Father Pete. Your guidance and presence will be missed by my family.

Merri Bindas

October 14, 2017

Father Pilarski married me and my husband over 55 yrs ago at Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church on Frankstown Rd. Then we met again about 5 yrs ago at a fish fry in Monroeville. May he rest in peace.

October 13, 2017

Met Fr Pete , his 1st Mass at OLMBS, Frankston & Standard Aves I served 6: 30 Mass 1959, late we crossed paths in Vietnam 1st Marine division , he a Chaplain , I a marine infantry ...

October 13, 2017

thomas conroy

October 13, 2017

What wonderful memories I have of OLMBS, church and school. He married my sister Dorothy and Fran, who are still married, praise God. He was a spiritual adviser to my former husband while he was on deployment to Viet Nam in 1968. He was a wonderful man of God. I'm sure you were welcomed as a good and faithful servant.

Sarah Jackson

October 12, 2017

Our Pastor, Cousin & Friend. You will be dearly missed.
Bob, Lorraine Oldenski & Sons. A special hug from Anna.

October 12, 2017

My dear friend, you will be missed tremendously but will always remain in our hearts. You're finally going home. We love you,
Connie and Barry

Connie Fiorina

October 12, 2017

Rest in Peace, Father Pete. You will be missed.
Marcy Davis

October 12, 2017

Father Pete: One of the good guys. RIP

Tony Gentilcore

October 11, 2017

I remember him as a great spiritual influence to the youth of Blessed Sacrament. He played baseball with us boys many times. Just a great loving person. May you Rest In Peace. You will certainly be missed by many

Jerry Bauer

October 11, 2017

Father Pilarski was a compassionate and good priest who guided and championed the youth of our parish. His wisdom was offered in "down to earth" messages that won the hearts of his parishioners. His positive demeanor clearly indicated that he enjoyed his calling. He was an inspiration who made a difference in lives.

Michele Rhule

October 11, 2017

I was fortunate enough to attend masses on Governors Island when Rev Pilarski was with the U.S. Coast Guard.

He did love his Steelers and we had some fun conversations as I was a Colts fan.

He was a fantastic man. Rest in peace.

Nick Pusloskie

October 11, 2017

I was in grade school at Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church when I first met Fr Pete. He came to our home to give Communion to My Aunt. Then met him again when he was Pastor of St Januarius Church. He was a wonderful priest and man. He is now with his beloved mother. He was very special. Rest in Peace.

Charlotte Marney Zalenski

October 11, 2017

You will surely be missed by all and especially me as you helped me through some very difficult times and I will be eternally grateful. May You Rest in Peace.

Paul & Emily Bywalski

October 11, 2017

"Our Pastor, Our Cousin, Our Friend," we will miss you dearly.
Bob & Lorraine Oldenski & Children. Special love from Anna.

October 11, 2017

Simply the best. Thank you Father Pete for your service to God, your parishioners and your country. You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek. You will truly be missed.

Michele & Bud Joyce

October 11, 2017

Fr. Pilarski was a great friend to the Kroll and O'Brien families when he was at Resurrection Church in West Mifflin. He officiated the marriage of my aunt and joined the family in Annapolis for my uncle's graduation. We always looked forward to his Christmas letter. He was a true gentleman and truly one of the nicest people I have ever known. Rest in Peace Father. Shelley O'Brien Dolan

October 11, 2017

I fondly remember Father Pilarski from when he served at Resurrection Church in West Mifflin. May he enjoy his heavenly reward with our Lord. RIP

Janice Pasay-Barum

October 11, 2017

You informed my sixth grade teacher, Sister Suzanne, that President Kennedy had been shot. I remember it vividly, as I remember how much you were loved as our young priest at Blessed Sacrament. Rest In Peace. You impacted many young lives.

Sharen Colaizzi-Custer

October 11, 2017

First Holy Communion at Blessed Sacrament. Loved his sweet personality.

Faye Hudak