

Washington Monsignor James Montgomery, 74

Monsignor James F. Montgomery, 74, the pastor of Annunciation Catholic Church in Northwest Washington, died of congestive heart failure Sept. 10 at the church rectory.

Monsignor Montgomery was ordained a priest in the Washington Archdiocese by Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle in 1956. He had been pastor at Annunciation since 1972. During his pastorate, he also was director of Catholic Charities.

He was born in Philadelphia, attended LaSalle and Mount St. Mary's colleges and St. Mary's Seminary. After his ordination he was associate pastor at the Church of the Nativity in Washington, then was posted to St. Michael's in Silver Spring.

In 1960, he was named assistant director of Catholic Charities, and he served in that capacity for 14 years until becoming the organization's director. In 1962 he became chaplain at St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home in Hyattsville.

He became a papal chamberlain and received the title of monsignor in 1970. In 1978, he was named a prelate of honor.

Monsignor Montgomery had been spiritual moderator of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Ladies of Charity, a trustee of St. Ann's infant home, St. Joseph Home for Boys and Carroll Manor.

There are no immediate survivors.