

1932 — *Rev. Richard* — 2023

# Rev. Richard Powers

October 6, 1932 — February 13, 2023

Owensboro, Kentucky

Rev. Richard Powers, 90, of Owensboro, passed away Monday, February 13, 2023, at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital. He was born October 6, 1932, in Curdsville, to the late Joseph Hubert and Teresa M. (McCarty) Powers.

Rev. Richard Powers was ordained on May 1, 1959. He received his early education at St. Elizabeth Church and School in Curdsville. Rev. Powers attended St. Meinrad College in St. Meinrad, IN, and St. Maur's Seminary in South Union, KY, before being ordained by Bishop Cotton. He has the distinction of being the third son in his family of twelve children to become a priest. After his ordination he was the associate pastor at St. Stephen Cathedral for one year, then the associate pastor of St. Francis DeSales Church in Paducah for one year. In 1961, he was made the associate pastor of Holy Name Church in Henderson where he remained for four years. Rev. Powers then became the associate pastor of Sts. Joseph and Paul in 1965, where he served for two years. From 1967 until 1970, he served as pastor of St. Pius X Church in Calvert City, then in 1970 became pastor of St. Joseph Church in Bowling Green. In 1972, he became pastor of St. Sebastian Church in Calhoun, until 1974 when he became pastor of St. Peters Church in Stanley. Rev. Powers was also the Vocations Director for the Diocese of Owensboro from 1972 until 1976. In 1976, Rev. Powers became the pastor of Precious Blood Church where he remained for six years.

In 1982 he entered the United States Navy as a Chaplain and served in the position until 1989. In 1990, he became the pastor of Immaculate Church in Owensboro for five years, and in 1995 was made the pastor of St. Mary of the Woods Church in Whitesville. Rev. Powers became the pastor of St. Mary Magdalene Church in Sorgho, then retired from active ministry in 2007. He lived at St. Alphonsus Parish and served the Diocese of Owensboro when requested.

Rev. Powers enjoyed nature, especially flowers and spending time in his log cabin that was tucked away in the woods. He loved boating in his younger years and visiting Rough River, KY Lake, and Barren River. The Mission in Haiti was near to his heart, and he had traveled there through the years and donated often. Rev. Powers especially loved his family, and celebrating Christmas in July with his siblings. Throughout his time in the Diocese, he helped so many and made a difference in many lives. He will be sorely missed by his family, his parishioners, and all of the people he touched the lives of throughout his ministry.

In addition to his parents, Rev. Powers was preceded in death by his sisters, Mary Agnes Powers, Patricia Garvin, Elizabeth M. Lattus, and Celine M. Kahalley; and his brothers, Joseph H. Powers Jr., Rev. Aloysius F. Powers, and Robert A. Powers.

He is survived by his siblings, Msgr. Bernard A. Powers, Martha M. Taylor, Mary Teresa Hayden (Don), and Maddalena Leach.



The Mass of Christian Burial will be 10am Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, at St. Stephen Cathedral with Rev. Freddie Byrd as principal celebrant. Burial will follow in Mount Saint Joseph Cemetery. Visitation will be from 12pm until 4pm Sunday at the Carmel Home, and from 5pm until 7pm Sunday at St. Stephen Cathedral, with a prayer service beginning at 6pm. Visitation will also be held 8:30am until 10am Monday at the Cathedral. Care by Glenn Funeral Home and Crematory.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of donations to the Carmel Home, 2501 Old Hartford Road, Owensboro, KY, 42303. Envelopes will be provided.


Memories and messages of condolence for the family of Rev. Richard Powers may be offered online at [www.glenncares.com](http://www.glenncares.com).


# Service Schedule

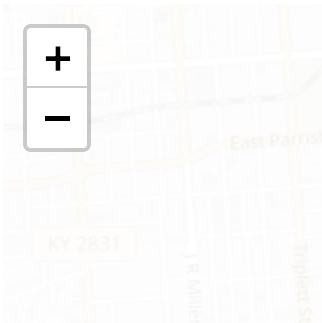

## Past Services




### Visitation


 Sunday, February 19, 2023  
12:00 - 4:00 pm (Central time)

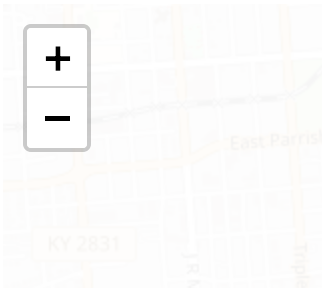

 Carmel Home  
2501 Old Hartford Rd, Owensboro, KY 42303




### Visitation


 Sunday, February 19, 2023  
5:00 - 7:00 pm (Central time)

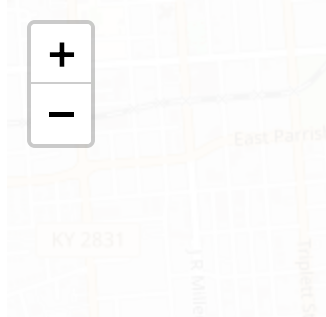
 St. Stephen Cathedral  
610 Locust St, Owensboro, KY 42301





### Prayer Service

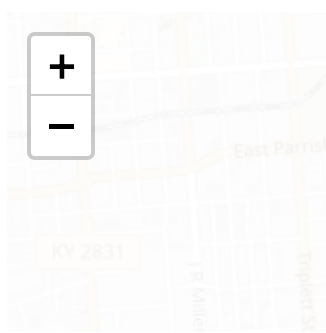
 Sunday, February 19, 2023  
6:00 - 7:00 pm (Central time)

 St. Stephen Cathedral  
610 Locust St, Owensboro, KY 42301





## Visitation

-  Monday, February 20, 2023  
8:30 - 10:00 am (Central time)
-  St. Stephen Cathedral  
610 Locust St, Owensboro, KY 42301



## Mass

-  Monday, February 20, 2023  
10:00 - 11:00 am (Central time)
-  St. Stephen Cathedral  
610 Locust St, Owensboro, KY 42301

# Guestbook

Reverend Powers was such a wonderful person; he helped me through hard times, was a frequent visitor at my home and was always a phone call away. Thinking of his family during this time.

**DEVERA HALL**

Feb 16, 2023

The world seems a little less bright after losing such an excellent priest, wonderful person and great friend. He was all that and more. Though we are saddened we should be celebrating as I know the saints are as they welcome him home.

**SCOTT TAYLOR**

Feb 16, 2023

Fr. Powers was 1st priest ever at Precious Blood when I was a young boy. May He Rest in Peace.

**RICHARD RUSSELBURG**

Feb 16, 2023

Father Richard was a very joyful and spontaneous person. He enjoyed life to the fullest and always had a humorous comeback to the people he shared conversations with, whether young or old. I personally liked how outgoing and free spirited he was. He will be missed by many; his legacy will live on. Sending prayers and sympathy to the family. His death is a great loss. He fought the good fight and won his reward - eternal life. Be assured that he is with you all, just a heartbeat away.

**SISTER BETSY MOYER, OSU**

Feb 16, 2023

Fr. Richard lived the joy of the priesthood till the very end. He was an inspiration, a father, a spiritual director and a mentor! I will always treasure your words, "stay close to the Eucharist." I will miss you greatly! Thank you for all you taught me! Pray for me as you rest with Jesus!

**REV. EMMANUEL UDOH**

Feb 16, 2023

The powers family welcomes another saint home. Ríip

**MARTIN J POWERS**

Feb 16, 2023



Father Richard was a kind and sweet soul. My Uncles, Father Jerry & Carl Glahn thought highly of Father Richard. He will be greatly missed by many.

**EVA GLAHN ATKINSON**

Feb 17, 2023

When Fr. Richard was at Holy Name, he would walk me across Second Street when I was in the first grade. I use to get teased a lot because father held my hand to see that I got out of that busy traffic flying by. He was so tall, dark headed and a nice fella.

**CINDY BECK FRENCH**

Feb 17, 2023

I am very saddened by the loss of my dear friend. He shaped many of us in our young lives as our chaplain at Coast guard base in Kodiak Alaska. He had a profound effect on us. He gathered a group of us young men together and we spent many a day visiting with him. There were countless Bible studies and get togethers in which he gave us such inspiration, letting us know that we truly mattered to God. We had never met anyone like him before. He had a true calling to minister to us. He talked to us not only as a Catholic priest, but as a true blue friend. He brought so many new insights to us about faith and the value of life. He was the spark that ignited our faith, and has been there for us through all these years. We used to say to each other how about heaven, if I get there first pray for me, if I get there first I will pray for you! I thought with Father Richard praying for us, how could we go wrong! My prayers go out to Father Richard's family, I am very sorry for your loss. No doubt you have countless good memories about Father that will last the rest of your lives. I was glad to have known him and been taught by him many life lessons. He will be missed and prayed for the rest of my life.

**HANK CONRAD**

Feb 17, 2023

I was so very fortunate to meet Fr. Richard at the U.S. Navy Chaplain School these many years ago. He was a fine man, and exceptional priest, and a wonderful friend. I will offer a mass for his family and their loss. Ah, but it is surely heaven's gain. Fr. Aaron Peters, OSB - a Kansas Monk.

**FR. AARON PETERS,**

Feb 17, 2023

Fr. Powers was a priest that was well liked and respected with the Knights of Columbus. May he rest in peace and I will rememberr him in my rosaries.

**ISMAEL (TONY) S NAZARIO**

Feb 18, 2023

What a wonderful, kindhearted priest. He touched so many lives and we feel blessed to have known him. So lucky to have had him at our wedding at Immaculate and so grateful that he served our great country as a Navy Chaplain! May he rest in God's peace!

**DAVE AND CAROL (NORCIA) ROBILLARD**

Feb 18, 2023

I sure am going to miss Fr. Powers....his infectious smile, his gentle words and caring heart. When my mom passed away he knew she made rosaries, and he came to my daddy and asked if he could buy all of her extra beads, supplies etc since he use to make rosaries while he was in the seminary. My daddy said to give to him. When Fr Powers picked up everything I had one special request....that the first rosary he made would he make for me. The next day he came to the house and I said that was fast and he smiled and pulled out this wore rosary out of his pocket and he said " Your mom made this rosary for me 10 years ago and I thought how much more special would this be for you to have and treasure." He said of course it's been used everyday, more than once in those 10 years. He gave me the kindest and heartfelt smile and placed the rosary in my hand. I will always treasure that special gift from Fr Powers. Much love and sympathy to the family.

**LISA CALHOUN MULLIGAN**

Feb 19, 2023



I had come close to joining the priesthood before I took the sacrament of marriage. Father Richard was a Spiritual adviser, friend, and mentor. Fr. Richards presence in my life is hard to quantify! Words are not adequate. Everyday I quote him, try to emulate him or ask myself "I bet he'd say.....". Fr. Bernard.would say..."a rock a resting place.". I'm reminded of one of his favorite books. ..The Imitation of Christ". The spot on the road Peter is asked to make a decision.. I will continue to hopefully show my devotion to what Fr. Richard taught me everyday. For he showed me the love of Christ in the world and my life is so much that reason I have tried reach out into my own world and perhaps weakly pass on what I learned. Everyday that I work in healthcare I try to sacrifice "sacrum facere" "or make something holy. Thomas Merton, Viktor Franklin, Mother Theresa, The Documents of the Second Vatican Council. The pocket Aquinas. He humble, charming and extremely deeply read. He encouraged you to look out into the world and participate. That we could effect change in the world and we were responsible for our fellow man. Our lives made a difference. He was an apostle of Christ I recognize it and like Don Quixote carry on the fight... Hank was so happy to see your post on here! There were so many Coast Guardsmen who benefited from Fr. Richards presence. I thank the Diocese of Owensboro, for sharing him with us. He made a bleak situation bearable . To his family you are in our debt. He was a missionary for us!!!❤️🙏

**DONALD ALBRECHT**

Feb 20, 2023



Fr. Powers was such a joy to talk with. May he now rest in the arms of the Father.

**JACKI BYRNE**

Feb 20, 2023