

Rev. Marvin F. Leven

January 24, 1925 - January 21, 2021

OKLAHOMA CITY

The Rev. Marvin Francis Leven, age 96, passed away at St. Ann's Nursing Home in Oklahoma City on January 21, 2021. He was born on January 24, 1925, to Anton Aloysius



Leven and Mary Louise Sheik Leven on the family farm in Kay County, Oklahoma. He attended grade school at Pioneer School in Kay County and at St. Francis of Assisi Grade School in Newkirk, Oklahoma. He graduated from Newkirk High School in 1942 and from Oklahoma A&M College (now Oklahoma State University) in 1949. After graduation, he worked for Continental Oil Company in Ponca City and for the Agricultural Adjustment Agency in Kay County.

He completed two tours of duty with the U.S. Army, one at Hiramachida, Japan, and one at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

He attended St. John's Seminary and Assumption Seminary in San Antonio, Texas, and was ordained on May 16, 1959, at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Newkirk by his uncle, Bishop Stephen Leven. During his years of service to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and to the people of Oklahoma, he completed the following parish assignments. From 1959 to 1967, he was an Associate Pastor at the parishes of SS Peter & Paul in Tulsa, St. Francis Xavier in Enid, St. Eugene in Oklahoma City, and Holy Family Cathedral in Tulsa. From 1967 to 1998, he served as Pastor at Prince of Peace in Altus, St. Francis Xavier in Enid, St. John the Baptist in Edmond, Holy Family in Okarche, and Holy Family in Lawton.

After retirement in 1998, he continued to be active for twelve years serving as an Assistant Chaplain for St. Joseph Monastery in Piedmont and for Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma; as a Ship's Priest for the Holland America Cruise Line; and as a substitute pastor in many Oklahoma parishes. His other official assignments have included: Diocesan/Archdiocesan Finance Committee, Area Vicar in three of nine Vicariates, Priests' Senate in its first ten years, Archdiocesan Consulter for twenty years, and Archdiocesan Liaison to Charismatic Renewal. His special ministries have included World Wide Marriage Encounter Teams, Charismatic Renewal Programs, Counselor to Conscientious Objectors, and State Chaplain to the Knights of Columbus. He retired from "active ministries" at the age of 88.

Reverend Leven was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Mary Louise Leven Jackson; and two brothers, Otto John Leven and Harold Leven. He is survived by his brother, Andrew Aloysius Leven, of Walnut Creek, California. He is also survived by his nieces, Rosaleah Leven Hodgson, of Ponca City; Marian Antonette (Tony) Leven Reynolds, of Caldwell, Kansas; Charlotte Leven Richert, of Tulsa; Ada Louise Leven Phieffer, of Orlando; Denise Jackson Simon, of Wichita; Carrie Leven, of Questa, New Mexico; and Sister Bernadette Leven, OCD, of Seattle, Washington. Other survivors include his nephews, Harold Leven and Otto John Leven, of Newkirk; Wayne Jackson, of Arkansas City, Kansas; Mark Jackson, of Vinalhaven, Maine; Christopher Jackson, of Bowling Green, Kentucky; Blase Leven, of Omaha, Nebraska; and Kirk Leven, of Santa Barbara, California.

Appreciation is expressed to the staff of St. Ann's Skilled Nursing and Therapy Center - especially Alberta Semmions and Bekki Larimer. Special thanks also goes to Becky Lovelace, Mercy Hospice Nurse; Suzanne Clem, Archdiocesan Priests' Nurse; and Fr. Alex Knoll, Associate Pastor at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, for their loving and compassionate care of Rev. Leven.

Funeral Services will be private. Burial will be at the Newkirk Cemetery in Newkirk, Oklahoma.

In lieu of flowers, Father Leven requested that donations be made to the Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burse, Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73123-0380.

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