

Former Sacred Heart Associate Pastor Is Dead at Age 40

The Rev. Paul McHugh, 40, former associate pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Poplar Bluff, died Saturday at his home in Branson.

Rev. McHugh recently underwent surgery for varicose veins and is believed to have died from a resulting blood clot, according to a Springfield-Cape Girardeau Diocese spokesman.

Rev. McHugh was ordained May 16, 1970. He had served churches in southern Missouri and was associate pastor of Sacred Heart from August 1970 until June 1973. At the time of his death, he was pastor of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Branson.

He is survived by his mother, Mary Jessie McHugh of Atlanta; his grandmother, Mary H. Maxwell of Atlanta; and a brother, Gene McHugh of Miami.

Visitation was to begin at 3 p.m. today at Our Lady of the Lake. Vespers for the Dead will be at 7:30 p.m.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday in Our Lady of the Lake with the Most Rev. Bernard Law, bishop of the Springfield-Cape Girardeau Diocese, and priests of the diocese officiating.

The body will be at Our Lady of Providence Catholic Church, 886 Pardee Road, St. Louis, from 9 a.m. Wednesday until final mass at 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in Resurrection Cemetery, St. Louis, under the direction of Whelchel Funeral Home of Branson.