

Joseph Ryan Obituary

Ryan, Rev. Joseph D. Bay City, Michigan Rev. Joseph D. Ryan died Monday, April 20, 2009 in Brian's House at the age of 77 years. He was born June 1, 1931 to the late Joseph M. and Mary Irene (Hagan) Ryan in Jackson, Michigan but grew up in Saginaw where he attended St. Joseph and Holy Family schools. As a seminarian, Father Ryan attended St. Joseph Seminary in Grand Rapids, Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit and St. John Provincial Seminary in Plymouth. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 7, 1958 by Bishop Stephen S. Woznicki at the Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption in Saginaw where he worshipped since he was a young child. During his priesthood, he was affectionately known as Fr. Joe and served as an assistant at Sacred Heart, Oscoda; Blessed Sacrament, Midland; Our Lady of the Visitation, Bay City, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Chesaning; and as pastor at St. Joseph, Argyle; St. Agnes, Sanford; St. Anne, Linwood; St. James, Bay City; Holy Family, Saginaw; and St. Cecilia, Clare. In addition to membership on various diocesan boards and committees, Father Ryan was the diocesan director for the Christian Family Movement from 1961 to 1963 and as director for the Pre-Cana and Family Life offices in 1970. He was granted senior priest status (retirement) in 2005. Father Ryan was an honorary life-time member of the Knights of Columbus Clare Council #3029. He is survived by his sister, Judith (Larry) Moriarty of Northville, MI; his nieces and nephews: Cheryl Moriarty, Mary (Harlow) Moriarty Naasz, Kathleen Moriarty (Jeffrey Martens), Nancy (Randy) Pelky, Susan (Mark) Randall, Barbara (Patrick) Robinson, Robert Maschke; and 12 great nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Rosemarie Goceljak on June 9, 2000. The Funeral Liturgy and Committal Rites will be celebrated Friday, April 24, 2009 at 11:00 am in St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, 1503 Kosciuszko, Bay City. Fr. Joe will lie in state in church Friday after 10:00 am. The Most Rev. Robert J. Carlson, Bishop of the Diocese of Saginaw will preside and interment will follow in St. Andrews Cemetery, Saginaw. Members of St. Stanislaus Parish will pray the rosary in church Thursday at 2:30 pm followed by the Vigil Prayer Service at 7:00 pm. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan- Fr. Joe Ryan Fund (for the catholic school education of students in the Saginaw Diocese). Visiting hours will be Thursday from 2:00 to 8:30 PM at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church where Fr. Ryan will lie in state. Arrangements are entrusted to the care of the W. A. Trahan Funeral Chapel (989-893-6583).

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