

Monsignor VINCENT CLYNE, 95

Pastor emeritus of St. Ann's R.C. Church

Monsignor Vincent F. Clyne, the pastor emeritus of St. Ann's R.C. Church in Dongan Hills, died Sunday in



the Carmel Richmond Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, Dongan Hills. His age was 95.

2006

He was born and raised in Manhattan, and ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of New York by the late Cardinal Francis Spellman in 1945. In 1995, Monsignor Clyne was one of about a dozen Staten Island priests who were elevated to the position of monsignor by the late Pope John Paul II.

As St. Ann's third pastor, Monsignor Clyne served the parish for 13 years, from 1977 to 1990, a period of expansion, and especially so for the school. In 1980, he oversaw the construction of a school cafeteria and auditorium which could accommodate up to 600 people. The auditorium was used by school children during the day, and on weekends the parish was able to celebrate additional masses for the growing number of parishioners.

He also is remembered for creating a "children's mass" on Sundays for his youngest parishioners, with age-appropriate Scripture readings. He also invited children to join him around the altar for a better view during the consecration of the Eucharist.

Parishioners fondly recall how Monsignor Clyne could

often be seen walking his dog, Bingo, around the neighborhood, making frequent stops so children could pet his dog.

Monsignor Clyne continued to serve the parish as its pastor emeritus for a number of years after he retired at age 75.

In 1994 St. Ann's dedicated its new school pre-kindergarten, computer and library annex in his name.

After his retirement he lived in Midland Beach until 2010, when he entered Carmel Richmond.

Prior to coming to the Island, Monsignor Clyne was an assistant pastor at St. Augustine's R.C. Church in Ossining, N.Y. Before taking his post at St. Ann's, he served at Sacred Heart R.C. Church in West Brighton; Immaculate Conception R.C. Church, Stapleton, and St. Paul's R.C. Church in New Brighton.

In 2006 Monsignor Clyne was honored by the borough's Catholic clergy on the occasion of his 60th anniversary as a priest.

Monsignor Clyne is survived by many nieces and nephews and his sister-in-law.

The funeral will be Wednesday from the Virginia Funeral Chapel, Dongan Hills, with a mass at 10 a.m. at St. Ann's Church celebrated by Bishop Gerald Walsh, vicar of clergy for the Archdiocese of New York. Burial will follow in Resurrection Cemetery, Pleasant Plains.