



Rev. James F. Fanale

November 19, 1942 - October 13, 2020

Rev. James F. Fanale, C.S.V. passed away unexpectedly on Oct. 13, in St. Anne, Illinois. He was 77. Fr. Jim was born on Nov. 19, 1942 in Springfield, Illinois, the son of Michael and Gertrude (Davis) Fanale. He is survived by his brothers Michael (Dorothy) Fanale of Southport, NC and Thomas (Tamara) Fanale of Springfield, IL, and his sister Trudi (Robert Bjorge) Fanale of Longmount, CO. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Marianne Fanale.

Fr. Fanale pronounced his first vows Sept. 8, 1961 and was ordained a priest on June 7, 1969, in Springfield.

Fr. Jim was a graduate of Griffin High School in Springfield. He held both a B.A. and M.A. in English Literature from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and a Ph.D. in Medieval English Literature from the University of Illinois. From 1969 to 1979, he taught Religion and English at Bishop McNamara High School in Kankakee, before completing post-graduate studies from 1979 to 1986. He spent the next four years serving as Campus Minister and English Professor at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in Terre Haute, IN, until June 1990. From 1990 to 1996 he worked on the history of the Viatorians in the Chicago Province, and taught part time (1990-92) at DePaul University in Chicago. His last assignment came in 1996, when he was assigned as Pastor of St. Anne Church in St. Anne, IL. Fr. Jim served there

until July 2019, when he retired but continued to live in the community.

Visitation for Fr. Fanale will be held from 3-6 p.m. on Oct. 20, at St Anne Catholic Church, 230 North Sixth Avenue in St. Anne. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Oct. 21 at St. Anne's. Interment will be at 11 a.m. on October 22 at Calvary Cemetery, located at 2001 North 1st Street in Springfield. Please wear a facemask and practice social distancing guidelines.

Please remember Fr. James Fanale in your Masses and prayers.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2001 N 1st St.
Springfield, IL 62702

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **20**. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

St. Anne Catholic Church
236 N. 6th Street
St. Anne, IL 60964
(815) 427-8265

Funeral Mass

OCT **21**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Anne Catholic Church
236 N. 6th Street
St. Anne, IL 60964
(815) 427-8265

Graveside Service

OCT **22**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Calvary Cemetery
2001 N 1st St.
Springfield, IL 62702

Tribute Wall



“ I am so very sad to hear about Fr. Jim passing. He is one of the people that influenced me in becoming Catholic. He was our neighbor in Champaign, IL and was so kind to our family. What a wonderful person. I know heaven is rejoicing to have him there. Trudy, I remember him talking about you so much. I know you will miss him. I am praying for all of you. He loved his family so very much.

God bless you all,

Gail Worsham Pitt
Nashville, TN

Gail Pitt - November 23, 2020 at 10:35 PM

DS

“ Father Fanale was one of my favorite teacher and priest He was a very nice man. Rest In Peace.
My sympathies to his family.
Kind Regards,
Denise Chandler Smith

Denise Chandler Smith - October 23, 2020 at 11:23 PM

CU

“ Father Fanale taught me at Bishop McNamara many years ago and I found him to be the very best ever! I am deeply saddened!

Carol Burgess Ulrich - October 21, 2020 at 05:08 AM

SB

“ Fr. Jim, I will miss your Christmas notes, our only way of staying in touch for the past several years. I enjoyed working for and with you at St. Jude’s in Rochester. One of my fondest memories of you was when you would come home from your daily browsing trip to “Sally’s Boutique” and the sparkle in your eyes if you had been lucky enough to have found a terrific bargain. I hope “Sally” has a boutique up there so you can continue to enjoy those trips. Maybe you can coax Fr. Bill to go with you!
With many fond memories,
Sue Bozarth

Sue Bozarth - October 19, 2020 at 07:40 PM

BB

“ Our condolences on the passing of Father Jim. He was very special to many people and we were privileged to have him as our Pastor. He knew how to share the word and make everyone feel special and welcome!!!! Our prayers are with you all. Now in heaven he is out of pain and he does not have to worry about the squirrels eating his plants.

Bonnie & Bob Norush

Bonnie Bijak - October 19, 2020 at 08:52 AM

MB

“ So sorry to hear about Father Jim! It was a shock and so sudden. He will e greatly missed ! Sister Maxine (Janice Riker who is also in Heaven) and I Mary Jo Brown (Sr. Jozetta) and Fr. Jim went to school together at St. Agnes when we were children . Praying for Fr. Jim and his family and friends . Sorry I can not make it to any of his services but am praying . Would love to come to St. Anne as have great memories of the area as I was at Fortin Villa for 12 years !
God bless you all !

Mary No Brown - October 18, 2020 at 03:30 PM

CM

So sorry to hear of Jim's passing went to St Agnes and Cathedral together had a great visit when Sr Janice and I came up for Mass haven't seen him since his ordination we lost Sr Janice after that his folks and mine were good friends I know that your parish will miss him

Chuck Metz - October 19, 2020 at 08:27 PM

SB

“ *Tim & Tammy - So sorry to learn of your brother's passing. May he rest in eternal peace.*

Sharon Bell

Sharon Bell - October 18, 2020 at 11:26 AM

NC

“ *Blessings to Father Fanale. His educational prowess made an impression on many Bishop McNamara students. The angels should prepare for English lessons!*



nansi chandlernorum - October 17, 2020 at 04:04 PM

SH

“ *Sr. Martha Harrington,sscm lite a candle in memory of Rev. James F. Fanale.*



Sr. Martha Harrington,sscm - October 17, 2020 at 01:59 PM

CV

“ We were truly blessed by having Father Jim as our pastor at St. Anne Church for 22 years. Please accept my deepest and sincere sympathy at the loss of Father Jim. Please take comfort in the fact that he is now resting in peace and enjoying everlasting happiness in heaven. May God bless his family and give them the strength to cope with this loss. Cynthia Vickery

Cynthia Vickery - October 17, 2020 at 11:15 AM

CG

“ Father Jim thank you for everything you did for me and my family. You shed tears of sadness and joy with us. Your care and support got us through difficult moments. Your sense of humor always made us smile. You will greatly be missed. It has been such a blessing and honor to have had you in our lives. Love you always!

Chela Garrett or Chela dear, as you always called me. :)

Chela Garrett - October 17, 2020 at 10:58 AM

NW

“ Nora Walker lit a candle in memory of Rev. James F. Fanale



Nora walker - October 17, 2020 at 10:12 AM

JB

“ Dear Mike and Dorothy,

My condolences to you and all members of your family. Father Fanale's life long dedication to serving the Lord and helping and teaching others will be eternally rewarded in heaven. I will remember you all in my prayers.

*In friendship,
Joe Bonefeste, Springfield*

Joseph A. Bonefeste - October 17, 2020 at 09:47 AM

JB

“ *I had Fr. Fanale for religion when I attended Bishop Mac. He made it interesting and fun. I always liked how he related to us as students and was an integral part of the student body and my 4 years there. He also honored my requests to baptize my two children in 1972 and 1976. Rest in peace, my condolences to his family.*

judith bourland - October 17, 2020 at 09:39 AM



“ *Our condolences to Tom, Trudi, and Mike. Jim was a great person. Sam and Carol Gorden*

Sam Gorden - October 16, 2020 at 08:37 PM

KR

“ *I loved Father Jim so much! He was so intelligent and funny and loving. He was the BEST at talking with the kids, and the BEST at funeral sermons - he truly got to know all his parishioners and his caring showed. I was secretly hoping he'd live for a very long time so he could officiate my parents' funerals...he's probably laughing right now about me saying that. He will be missed.*

Kenna Rathai - October 16, 2020 at 05:51 PM

CS

The St. Anne Community was blessed to have Father Jim for so many years. What a wonderful spiritual leader and friend to all the people! He will be greatly missed!

Chris Sutherland - October 16, 2020 at 06:24 PM

CG

So true Kenna! He would come into Sunday School classes and always giggle with the kids. He always knew how to make things seem brighter!

Chela Garrett - October 17, 2020 at 11:02 AM

KW

“ *One of my favorite teachers in high school. Rest in peace, Father Bumblebee*

Karen Woith - October 16, 2020 at 02:20 PM

MB

“ *Mary Blum lit a candle in memory of Rev. James F. Fanale*



Mary Blum - October 16, 2020 at 01:49 PM