

File: Father McSharry
Funeral Mass
Friday, January 14, 2022

We are here to celebrate the life of Father McSharry. I wish to share first a passage from scripture, secondly our memories of Father McSharry in Carmel Heights, then close with a reflection.

John Chapter 15, Verse 12: "This is My commandment, that you **love one another as I have loved you.**"

My favorite hymn is called Whatsoever you Do by W. F. Jabusch; the refrain is:

*Whatsoever you do
to the least of My brothers,
that you do unto Me.*

Now enter into the home of My Father.

I can hear Jesus saying to Father McSharry, "Now enter into the home of My Father."

In 2007, Father McSharry, who knew our Carmelite Sisters in the US, was asked to give us a retreat here in Canada. Since then he has been giving us conferences each month. He generously shared his background in Carmelite Spirituality with us. He became part of our family. Then, seven years ago, Father started the Lay Associates of the Carmel of the Divine Heart of Jesus, and met on a monthly basis with the group. Father loved to speak about the spirit of Carmel; he was always quoting from the writings of our Mother Foundress, Blessed Maria Teresa of St. Joseph.

Father had a great devotion to the Sacred Heart: he often prayed the personal consecration prayer to the Sacred Heart in the spirit of our Foundress, with our Lay Associates.

Father had the gift of listening to others. When he greeted you, you would never forget his warmth, his gentle spirit.

Father moved last year to our home at Carmel Heights in Saint Catharines, with the intention of becoming our chaplain for the rest of his remaining years. He loved the Sisters so much.

In November Father McSharry was diagnosed with an illness that was being investigated. He took a fall in January in our home in St. Catharines, was sent to the hospital, and never returned

I was so fortunate to have a short visit with Father McSharry after Christmas. When we spoke about his illness, he said to me: "Sister, whatever God wants, I am ready to do His will. I put it all in His Hands."

Father will always be remembered by our Sisters for his love for our dear Mother Foundress and for her spirit. Father will be missed. I wish to conclude with a reflection in memory of Father McSharry, taken from Gregory Norbet's Wherever You Go:

*When the time
Of our particular sunset comes,
Our thing, our accomplishments
Won't really matter a great deal;
But the clarity and care
With which we have loved others
Will speak with fidelity
Of the great gift of life
We have been for each other.*

Sister Mary Veronica, CDCJ
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