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TRAINOR

Msgr. Robert Trainor

Posted Thursday, December 25, 2014 12:00 am

Msgr. Robert Trainor, who was pastor of St. Ann's and Our Lady of Angels parishes in the Bronx for more than a quarter of a century, died Dec. 9 in his residence at the rectory of Sacred Heart parish also in the Bronx. He was 83.

CARDINAL DOLAN



(<https://www.cny.org/stories/now-and-at-the-hour-of-our-death,24610>)

"November is the month Holy Mother Church invites us to contemplate dying, death, everlasting life, and the faithful departed." (<https://www.cny.org/stories/>)

Msgr. Trainor served as senior priest at Sacred Heart from 2006 until 2011. He had gone to Sacred Heart after his retirement from St. Ann's to help his friend Father Michael Sepp, the pastor there, who was battling cancer. Father Sepp died in 2009.

Msgr. Trainor was pastor of St. Ann's from 1992 to 2006. Previously he was pastor of Our Lady of Angels, 1980-1992, where he had also served as administrator for seven years, 1973-1980.

He earlier served as parochial vicar at St. Rose of Lima, Manhattan; St. Columbanus, Cortlandt Manor; and St. Joseph's, Millbrook.

Cardinal Dolan was the principal celebrant of the Funeral Mass Dec. 13 at Sacred Heart Church. Father Michael J. Morrow, parochial vicar at St. Eugene's Church in Yonkers and a close friend of Msgr. Trainor's, delivered the homily. He remembered Msgr. Trainor as a thoughtful friend and a gentle man who was nonetheless staunch in his convictions.

"If St. John Vianney were to return to earth and appear in the Bronx he would have been Bob Trainor," Father Morrow said. "He was the quintessential parish priest. He was humble, self-effacing, unassuming.

"All he ever wanted to be was a parish priest," he continued. "He was a man of intense prayer. He didn't have a prayer life, prayer was his life."

Father Morrow said his friend was steadfast in his defense of life. "He was powerful in the pulpit," he said, in his defense of the unborn. He was also fluent in Spanish.

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Born in White Plains, Msgr. Trainor was ordained to the priesthood in 1957 after studying at Cathedral College and St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie. He was named a monsignor in 1990.

He is survived by a sister, Joan Wildermann.

Burial was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Valhalla.

Keywords

Msgr. Robert Trainor

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