

James McSorley Obituary

OAKLAND, Calif. -- The Rev. James P. "Jim" McSorley, OMI, whose decades of service as a priest included missionary work in the Philippines died Friday, May 27, at Mercy Retirement and Care Center in Oakland. He was 84.

He was born in Philadelphia in 1921, one of 15 children of the late Richard and Marguerita Cosgrove McSorley. He became a resident of Oakland in 1985 and lived at Mercy Center Retirement and Care Center since 2003.

In 1937, he entered the congregation of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Buffalo, N.Y. He was ordained a priest in 1946 in Washington, D.C, beginning his decades of service with the Oblates, which has a missionary center in Tewksbury. From 1946 until 1960, he served as a missionary in the Philippines, and from 1960 until 1967 he did retreat ministry. He later served as a military chaplain in Germany. He also served as a priest in Idaho, Oakland, Calif., Aberdeen, Wash., and Hollywood, Fla.

He is survived by four three sisters, Sister Mary Rita McSorley, RSM, Marguerita V. McSorley Walsh and Sister Rosemary A. McSorley SHCJ ; a brother, Paul Leo McSorley; and more than 130 nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews, and great-grandnieces and great-grandnephews.

Father McSorley was also the brother of the late Rev. Francis John McSorley, OMI bishop of Jolo, Philippines, Rev. Richard T. McSorley, SJ, Winifred McSorley Allen, the Rev. Patrick McSorley, SJ, Sr. Eleanor T. McSorley, IHM, Rita Inez McSorley, Joseph C. McSorley, Sr. Theresa B. McSorley, SHCJ and Anne N. McSorley Lukens.