



Father Joe

January 15, 1945 - October 16, 2023

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Father Joseph William Elliott at noon on October 23 at Sacred Heart Church in Massena. Bishop Terry R. LaValley, bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, will serve as principal celebrant, and Father Donald J. Manfred will be the homilist.

Calling hours will be at Phillips Memorial Home, 64 Andrews Street, Massena, from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, October 21, and from 4 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, October 22. Vespers, evening prayer, will be prayed at the funeral home at the conclusion of calling hours on Sunday.

Father Mark R. Reilly, V.F., pastor of St. Peter's Parish in Massena, will preside over the reception of the body at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, October 23, at Sacred Heart Church, Massena. Father Elliott's body will lie in state until 11:30 a.m.

A private burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in Massena.

Father Elliott, 78, died late in the evening on October 16, 2023, at Saint Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg, where he had been a resident.

Born January 15, 1945, in Massena, he was the son of Joseph J. and Marion (Charette) Elliott. His parents predeceased him.

He studied for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg and St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, New York. He was ordained at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg on May 22, 1971, by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana.

Father Elliott began his priesthood serving as parochial vicar at St. Joseph's Church in West Chazy. He also served in that role at St. Augustine's & St. Patrick's churches in Peru, Church of the Immaculate Conception in Brownville, St. Elizabeth Seton Church in Dexter and All Saints Church in Chaumont, St. Mary's Church in Canton, and St. Patrick's Church in Watertown.

Father Elliott became pastor of St. Cecelia's Church in Adams in May of 1978. He also served as pastor in St. Michael's Church in Parishville and Church of the Holy Cross in Hopkinton, St. Mary's in Canton, the Roman Catholic Community of Brownville and Dexter, St. Alexander's Church in Morrisonville and St. Joseph's Church in Plattsburgh, and the Catholic Community of St. Philip of Jesus and St. Joseph in Willsboro. He then served for a brief time as parochial vicar at Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Lawrence in Massena.

In addition to his parish ministry, Father Elliott served as co-director and then director of the Permanent Diaconate Program for the Diocese of Ogdensburg. He also served as dean of the Clinton Deanery and on the Continuing Education of Clergy Committee.

Father Elliott retired from active ministry on July 1, 2012.

Father Elliott is survived by four siblings, Sister Suzanne Marie Elliott, Dennis Elliot, Mary Elliott Perry and Nancy (Elliott) Sampson.

In addition to his parents, Father Elliott was predeceased by a brother, Dr. Leland Elliott.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Father Elliott's memory to Trinity Catholic School in Massena or St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg.

Family and friends are invited to share on-line condolences and memories at www.PhillipsMemorial.com.

Cemetery



CALVARY CEMETERY

Calvary Cemetery,
Massena, NY 13662

Events

23
Oct

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Sacred Heart Church
212 Main St, Massena,
NY 13662

23
Oct

VISITATION

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sacred Heart Church
212 Main St, Massena,
NY 13662

22
Oct

VISITATION

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Phillips Memorial
Home - Massena 64
Andrews Street,
Massena, NY 13662

21
Oct

VISITATION

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Phillips Memorial
Home - Massena 64
Andrews Street,
Massena, NY 13662

Tribute Wall

M

Marsha Scully

Miss you, Father Joe! Remembering our trip to Italy with our parishes.

W

William Cozy

With love & appreciation,



Tribute Store

A memorial tree was planted in memory of Father Joe.

P

Patricia Hamlin

In 1972, Fr. Joe married Jim and me in Peru, New York. Years later, he became our Pastor at St. Alexander's in Morrisonville, NY. He encouraged me to enroll in The Formation For Ministry Program. Upon completion of the program, I became very active in outreach ministry as well as numerous other Parish activities always having Fr. Joe's support. May he rest in peace. Patricia Hamlin

P

Pam Ballantine

The Ballantine Family in Peru send their thoughts and prayers to Fr. Joe's family. I served with Fr. Joe at St. Alexander's/St. Joseph as the Pastoral Associate for the years he was Pastor. We loved his sense of humor and he could take a joke as well as play one on the staff. His love and passion with the sick and homebound was a true blessing for our parish community. He will always be remembered as a very special pastor. In loving remembrance, Pam Ballantine

P

Peggy Orosz Hewitt

Condolences to the Elliott family, on Joe's passing. My family grew up across the street and our families share a lifetime of memories. Father Joe was always the sweetest and kindest, his humour shining through when least expected. We will miss you Joe.

S

Sister Mary Hartnett RSM

My thoughts and prayers are with Father Joseph's family, friends, and all those he served in his many years of ministry. May he rest in the peace of Christ. In Mercy with Love and Prayers, Sister Mary Hartnett RSM

S

Susan Gibbs

Father Joe was very important to my family when he was at Immaculate Conception in Brownville. My daughter loved joking with him and singing for him. He was amazing during my annulment process,; compassionate, and yet strict He was very important in introducing my new husband to the Catholic Church. In fact, my husband chose Joseph as his Confirmation name in honor of Father Joe. He was at Mass in Ogdensburg when my husband met the bishop before his Confirmation . He also was at the Mass when I became a lay minister . He will always be alive in our hearts, and in our memories.

C

Catherine Peyton

I am sorry to read of Father Joe's passing. He was my parents' priest at St. Cecilia's. Nick and Betty Grieco thought the world of him- he was funny and friendly and devoted to his church and community. My prayers for Father Joe's family and friends.

A

Angela Acker

Rest in peace Father

**Tribute Store**

A memorial tree was planted in memory of Father Joe.

L

Loretta Perez

I enjoyed talking to Father Elliott and listening to his stories. He was a caring and compassionate man and will be missed.

S

Sandra Scott

A very kind and caring man. I remember him from St. Patrick's in Watertown. RIP

D

David Mount

Fran and I served with Fr Joe in Marriage Encounter for many years. We spoke by phone every Thursday night at 9 PM for over 20 years and that only stopped when he moved to Ogdensburg a few years ago. We still spoke often. Joe spent several vacations at our camp on Lake Champlain and we visited him in Massena and Ogdensburg. We will miss him a lot and he owes us a phone call. David Mount



Cece, Nancy, Susie and Sandra

Love to all,



"Beautiful in Blue"
was purchased for the family of Father Joe

 [Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers

J

Jon W

I was an Altar Boy at St. Celia's under Father Elliot. He was a great preacher, and had wisdom and patience with all of us rowdy kids. I especially remember his sermons on the beach, every summer, that were shorter than usual church, because he wanted to get to the delicious food as much as we did. He will be missed, and remembered for his wonderful personality and devotion to his flock.

B

Bill Bamann

Father Joe was a kind, personable, and caring parish priest. The Bamann Family will never forget him.

W

William O'Reilly



"Material_candle_red_thumbnail"
was lit in memory of Father Joe

 [Light a candle](#)

Show your support by giving a symbol of remembrance

D

Doreen

I am a Catholic because of Father Joe. He guided me through the process and counseled me during my father's illness and death. He was a wonderful, down to earth, caring man. I was blessed to know him.

M

Maureen Jessnik RSM

May Fr. Joe rest in eternal light and peace after his years of service and suffering. Condolences to his family and friends. Sr. Maureen Jessnik RSM

A

Anonymous

May he rest in peace in the arms of the Lord.

**Tribute Store**

A memorial tree was planted in memory of Father Joe.

P

Pamela Thomas

I grew up in the St Cecilia's neighborhood. Although I was not a member of his church, I remember Father Elliott as a kind friendly man. Growing up, the neighborhood kids would ride our bikes or rollerskate in the church parking lot. I just remember Father to always have a smile and a wave for us.

N

Nancy Sampson

My brother was proud to be a parish priest. He did not strive for acknowledgement or to have an elevated position in the diocese. He wanted to help people through the tough times of their lives. He did that. His power and glory was his simplicity. He loved, he felt the pain of others, and he touched many lives. He wasn't perfect. That was part of his glory. He was flawed and so are we. He could help us simply because he knew what it was like to be flawed. I wish his last few years had been easier. But as he told me, he lived through his purgatory. I am so proud to have been his sister.

B

Bobby

This is beautiful. Love to Joe and you. -Bobby

B

Bobby

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K

Karen

Nancy, he was a beautiful person. Thank you for sharing your version of him. A man of God who was human like the rest of us. So glad I had the opportunity to have met him and had him in our family when he was.

K

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K

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Laura Sampson and Bobby Stuver

We are so sorry we can't be there for the funeral. We love you all and wish we could be there! Love, Laura and Bobby



"Days of Sunshine Bouquet"
was purchased for the family of Father Joe

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers

L

Laura Sampson

Uncle Joe was the best uncle. He always had a joke ready and loved to make us laugh. I loved playing cards with him even though he always won (even when he played Spit one-handed!). I have such fond memories of being with him at our family reunions and on thanksgivings at our house. Joe was so loving and generous, visiting us in Boston even when it was hard for him to travel. I know he was loved by so many. We will miss him so much!

B

Bobby

I am so thankful I was able to meet Uncle Joe through the Elliot/Sampson family and my wife, Laura. I wish I had known him more in my life as he was a wonderful, peaceful person. I send my condolences to his family and friends.

M

Maria West

I was blessed to have Father Joe in my life as a priest and a friend. He impacted my life greatly with his wisdom. I will miss our talks, your jokes and the sound of your laughter. Thank you for the memories. You will be missed.



Anonymous

From Ronald Kessler and your colleagues at and on behalf of the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School.



"Sacred Garden Spray"
was purchased for the family of Father Joe

[Tribute Store](#)

Show your support with flowers

M

Mary Perry

I am forever grateful to my brother, Father Joseph Elliott, for all his love and support to our family. Many memories from the Guggenheim Family Reunion's that he made possible for years?? My best memories are of all the card games of Spit that he lost because I was just TOO FAST for him??

K

Karen Burkum

He was a kindhearted person. When my grandfather passed away in 1986, Fr. Elliott came to the house and prayed and cried with us. Very caring. My husband and I had the privilege of having him bless our marriage. Sweet dreams in your eternal sleep Fr. Elliott.

A

A Memorial Tree was planted for Father Joe

We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Phillips Memorial Home - Massena
