



**REV. MONSIGNOR JOHN E.
FITZPATRICK**

May 31, 1943 - May 19, 2022

VISITATION:

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022

4PM TO 7PM

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE RC CHURCH

5635 BERKSHIRE VALLEY ROAD

OAK RIDGE, NEW JERSEY 07438

973-208-0090

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL:

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022

7:30PM

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE RC CHURCH

5635 BERKSHIRE VALLEY ROAD

OAK RIDGE, NEW JERSEY 07438

MASS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED:

www.facebook.com/ststthomasjohn

OR:

<https://venue.streamspot.com/7lcd47d1>

INTERMENT WILL BE PRIVATE AT A LATER DATE

Reverend Monsignor John E. Fitzpatrick, 78 years, of Hamburg, New Jersey, formerly of Oak Ridge, New Jersey, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, May 19, 2022.

He was born on May 31, 1943 in Teaneck, New Jersey to the late Gertrude L. (nee Young) and the late Vincent F. Fitzpatrick.

His Catholic education began at St. Andrews School in Westwood, New Jersey, Don Bosco Prep in Ramsey, New Jersey, St. Francis University in Loretto, Pennsylvania, and St. Francis Seminary, where he received his Masters of Divinity Degree.

On May 30, 1970, Msgr. Fitzpatrick was ordained by Bishop Lawrence B. Casey at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, New Jersey.

From 1970 to 1974, Msgr. Fitzpatrick served at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Boonton, New Jersey, and from 1974 to 2012 he was the Pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Oak Ridge, New Jersey. It was during this time, on June 6, 1993, that he was named Monsignor.

He loved parish work and especially his involvement with the residents of the Department for Persons with Disabilities.

Msgr. Fitzpatrick is survived by his loving brothers Vincent Fitzpatrick and his wife Kathleen, Gregory Fitzpatrick and his wife Andrea, and Kevin Fitzpatrick and his wife Mary; his dear nieces and nephews Doris, Paula, Kathryn, Gregory T, Kelly, Megan, and John; as well as seven grand nieces and grand nephews.

The family will receive visitors on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 from 4pm to 7pm

with a Mass of Christian Burial at 7:30pm at St. Thomas the Apostle RC Church, 5635 Berkshire Valley Road, Oak Ridge, New Jersey 07438.

Interment will follow at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Rev. Msgr. John E. Fitzpatrick's memory would be appreciated to continue the work for "God's Special People" to the Department for Persons with Disabilities, 1 Catholic Charities Way, PO Box 2539, Oak Ridge, NJ 07438.

Log onto www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com tribute wall to personally post your condolences, memories, photos or videos, as well as driving directions to the church.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **25.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

St. Thomas the Apostle RC Church
5635 Berkshire Valley Road
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438
(973) 208-0090

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY **25.** 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM (ET)

St. Thomas the Apostle RC Church
5635 Berkshire Valley Road
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438
(973) 208-0090

Tribute Wall

FH

“ So sorry to know of the falling asleep in the Lord of Msgr. John Fitzpatrick. We were classmates from Loretto. I enjoyed our years together. May Msgr. John's memory be eternal. Condolences to all siblings and their families.

Fr. Denmis Hrubiak - August 25, 2022 at 09:56 PM

CP

Always in our hearts with love. May he rest in peace with the Lord he so adored. He will be sadly missed.

Carl and jill pasko - February 09, 2025 at 12:38 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Walter Endlicher - June 24, 2022 at 09:11 PM

NE

“ Father Fitz was a a part of our family when we were parishoners at St Thomas from 1998-2002. WE lioved him & his no nonsense attitude. A brilliant man; always learned something from him during the mass. LOVE YOU FATHER !! I am sure the Lord welcomed you with open arms to heaven !!
Nelly Maccaro

Nelly - June 12, 2022 at 09:07 PM

JS

“ As a seminary and ordination classmate, and in touch by phone with John over the past many years, occasionally visiting with him when work took me to New York, I am saddened by share Fitz's relief now being unburdened by the many doctors who were attending to his challenges as his life changed from pastor to religion teacher to full retirement. We talked regularly of so many things, remembering so many of our own experiences and those of our classmates. Flying under the radar during his years at St. Francis Seminary in Loretto, John was an artful navigator of seminary life; his deacon year was challenging when he was supposed to be a hospital chaplain in Johnstown and no local pastor would give him the consecrated hosts for hospital patients. He shared with me, so many years later, his experience of being a deacon at St. Rochus parish in Johnstown after the crazy hospital challenge, where at one point early in his tenure there he was alone in the rectory and chased by the pastor's rather large dog, fleeing into the kitchen and on top of the table where he was able to reach the phone and call the convent to have one of the sisters call the dog off! Later, in my cemetery management career I was able to offer guidance to John on the parish cemetery at St. Thomas, not that he needed the help! John's educational background and street smarts made no situation challenging for him. Over the years we both responded to classmate situations that needed attention and John was always a friend and support well beyond anything duty might have indicated; he was generous to a fault! We used to talk about Maryrest Cemetery and when I worked there for the Archdiocese of Newark, I'd pull along side the road where I could see his parents' monument and spend a few moments remembering them. I only wish I could be back there from Arizona to stop there again to remember John and his parents as they celebrate their heavenly reunion. I'm sure the Lord welcomes him with open arms and that familiar, "Well done, good and faithful servant! Come, and rest from your labors! I've prepared a special place for you."

Joseph B. Sankovich
Tucson, AZ

Joseph B. Sankovich - June 11, 2022 at 11:32 PM

LC

“ *Fr. Fitz was a big part of our family and our children's lives. He was always smiling and making you laugh. God has welcomed you home. Please pray for all of us as we will pray for you. Thank you for being a part of our lives. Blessings and Peace to the entire family. Liz Celmer*

Liz Celmer - May 29, 2022 at 01:03 PM

AS

“ *Rev. John was my neighbor and close friend. In the short time I knew him , He was a tremendous light into my life. Always words of wisdom, love, and care. We would talk for hours and hours. Praying together and talking about the way the Lord makes us laugh. I can't explain my heart and its hard to believe that He is gone. But I know He is smiling from heaven. I love and will miss you my dear friend. Forever my friend ❤️*

Angelic Mann Smith - May 26, 2022 at 01:02 PM

MK

“ *Father Fitzpatrick or Fitz for our family was not just my pastor for many years while we lived in Oak Ridge, NJ but also my friend and spiritual advisor. He always placed a very important place in the Krall family. The many long phone conversations we had until very recently really were the highlight of my days. He was with me "on the phone" giving support to our family when Bob passed away, right at the hospital. Then he did the most incredible Memorial Service for him at St. Thomas making my very diverse family and friends from different denominations feel so welcome in our church. I have so many memories of Fitz that is difficult to put it in this message, only that there is an angel watching us. Thank you Fitz for all you did for the Krall family.*

Martha Krall - May 25, 2022 at 03:33 PM



“ *We thank you Saint John Fitzpatrick, a Man of God, blessed with the gift of understanding combined with the gift of intelligence recognizing the needs of the mentally challenged, ensuring through your kindness and generosity their God given limited potential is met. WELL DONE, SAINT JOHN, THANK YOU. We know that you will ask God to continue to shower many blessings on your caregiver during the past year-the Paulist Father Sean Foley as he so lovingly and patiently managed your health care needs mentally and physically relieving a tremendous burden on you! As an RN, I could not have done a better job! Thank you Father Foley, may you continue to carry out the Paulist Mission.*

Eileen Leonard

Eileen Leonard - May 24, 2022 at 06:50 PM

SA

“ *Requiescat in Pace Father Fitz. I will never forget the majestic, eloquent Eulogy you gave for my WWII Father more than 33 years ago, and I heard about the equally masterful and eloquent Eulogy you afforded my Vietnam veteran sweetheart near the end of your tenure at St. Thomas the Apostle. You were one of the most erudite and articulate Pastors I ever met. I will also never forget some of your tempestuous Sermons such as the one I shall call Pennies in the Collection Plate. Sincere Condolences to your lovely family. You shall be missed.*

Susan Allender - May 24, 2022 at 04:44 PM

EG

“ *So sad that Monsignor Fitzpatrick is gone from this world, and devastated too; I was very attached to him. He cared deeply for all who were hurting; he loved them. He had -- has -- a sensitive and generous heart and soul . Now all who loved him, and all whom he loved, will be looking forward to meeting him again in the eternal life of God.*

Love, Elsa Gibson

Elsa Gibson - May 24, 2022 at 04:25 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of REV. MONSIGNOR JOHN E. FITZPATRICK.*



May 23, 2022 at 06:59 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of REV. MONSIGNOR JOHN E. FITZPATRICK.*



May 23, 2022 at 03:40 PM



“ *So deeply saddened by the passing of “Father Fitz.” Many beautiful memories we shared. You will be richly rewarded for all the many you helped and all the causes you championed. Till we meet again may God hold you in the palm of His hand.
Deacon Ralph and Gloria Weichand*

Gloria Weichand - May 23, 2022 at 09:54 AM



“ *Rest in peace, Padre ... you were a great friend to our family and a part of our lives for so many years it will be difficult for us now, but I am sure you will watch over us from your resting place in heaven ... your sufferings have ended and you are now finally at peace ... Our sincere condolences to your brothers and their families.
Carol and Jim Hastings ❤️*

Carol Hastings - May 21, 2022 at 11:56 AM



“ *Rest In Peace, good friend. I will miss you but am comforted in the thought that you now have eternal good heath and in the arms of a comforting God.
Alice Wargo Langdon*

Alice Langdon - May 20, 2022 at 04:25 PM

AK

“ I am so sad to hear of Msgr. Fitzpatrick's passing. I am very shocked since my mom, Martha Krall, just spoke with him a month ago and he seemed to be doing well. I remember so many good memories of Msgr. Fitzpatrick, or Fr. Fitz as we always new him. My sincerest condolences to the family.

Ana Maria Krall-Ziroglu

Ana Maria Krall-Ziirglu - May 20, 2022 at 03:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of
REV. MONSIGNOR JOHN E. FITZPATRICK.



May 20, 2022 at 06:30 AM