



Rev. Joseph E. Begue

February 24, 1923 - January 9, 2018

The Reverend Joseph E. Begue entered into eternal life on January 9, 2018. He was 94 years of age. He was born in Chicago on February 24, 1923 to Angela (McQuade) and Joseph Begue. Father Joe spent the majority of his priestly life in St. Louis, MO, over 55 years! He loved the city. However, his allegiance to Chicago's football team, the Bears, never waivered. If the Bears were on TV, he wanted to watch "his" team play.

Father Joe attended parochial schools on Chicago's northside. After his high school graduation, he served his country in the United States army during World War II. He was stationed in California, Texas, Illinois, and overseas. He was discharged on February 18, 1946 with the rank of master sergeant.

Helped by the GI Bill for veterans, he was able to pursue higher education at De Paul University, and then he decided to follow in the footsteps for Jesus Christ, evangelizer of the poor, as lived out by Saint Vincent de Paul. He entered the novitiate on September 15, 1948 and took his vows on September 16, 1950. He completed his philosophy and theology at St. Mary's of the Barrens, Perryville, Mo and was ordained there on May 29, 1955.

As a newly ordained priest, he taught at St. Vincent's College, Cape Girardeau, MO. After three years on the faculty, he became the Director of the Vincentian Press, St. Louis, MO.

What was the Vincentian Press? Throughout the years the Vincentian Community, like other religious orders and congregations, has had many

missions and missionaries throughout the world. Priests, pastors and institutions often needed to buy religious items and supplies. Having a retail store where religious goods could be purchased in bulk and sold at modest prices, the Congregation of the Mission provided a great service, not only to Vincentians but also to many diocesan priests and parishes and lay people. For over 50 years Father Joe was the Director at the Vincentian Press and was well known in the Archdiocese of St. Louis for selling religious merchandise at a reasonable price. He always had a smile for anyone who entered the store.

A hernia surgery, fractures and the aches and pains of a long life did not slow him down. He continued to work daily at the Vincentian Press, supported by a devoted lay staff, until his age and health caught up with him and the Press closed in December 2011.

Father Joe was a hard worker who served faithfully, whether in the US army, in his priestly life or at Vincentian Press. We can only imagine what the Lord is saying to him-“Welcome, favored of my Father! Take possessions of the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world” (Matt26:34).

May he rest in peace.

Visitation will be held at Mary Mother of God Chapel on Wednesday, January 10 from 5:00 – 7:00 pm and on Thursday from 9:00 am until time of Mass at 10:00 am. Funeral Mass for Fr. Joseph Begue, CM will be held at Mary Mother of God Chapel on Thursday at 10:00 am with Rev. Ray Van Dorpe, CM officiating, followed by Rite of Committal in Vincentian Community Cemetery with military Graveside Service provided by American Legion and Delta Team.

Online condolences may be made at youngandsonsfuneral.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. Joseph E. Begue*

October 20, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *Rev. Joseph E. Begue*

October 20, 2023 at 01:44 AM



“ *Dearest Father Joe, a beloved friend almost as soon as I met him at St Agatha's in 1993. Please pray for us Fr Joe. I had a private Latin mass prayed for our dear friend.*

Priscilla Gray - January 31, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *"We have loved him during life; let us not forget him until we have conducted him by our prayers into the house of the Lord." St. Ambrose*
We miss him very much, our dear friend Fr. Begue.

Michael & Andrea McCann - January 31, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Father Joe married us. we will never forget he started the sermon talking about death. we asked for a short one but he talked so long we were late for the reception. until a few years ago he stopped sending letters, probably more than a few years. he always called me his angle. now he will be our angel. He will be missed buy never forgotten. Peggy Wesolowski (Hohler)*

PEGGY WESOLOWSKI - January 24, 2018 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ A great priest and a dear friend has gone to his reward. Certainly to a much better place without the suffering he endured here. He will be in our prayers.

Howard Brandt - January 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ To the *BEGUE FAMILY* and *VINCENTIANS*: The officers and members of *FRIENDS of PRIESTS of Greater St. Louis* offer their deepest prayerful sympathy on the passing of longtime Vincentian priest *FR. JOSEPH E. BEGUE, C.M.* During his more than six decades as a priest, *Fr. BEGUE* offered great spiritual and pastoral support to many Catholics in the metro St. Louis area, Perryville, MO and other areas where he so faithfully served. He also provided great support for Catholic evangelism and catechetics for years through his role and ministry as Director of *The Vincentian Press* in downtown St. Louis, which assisted Catholic clergy and laity across the nation until its closure. May all of you be assured of our prayerful remembrance of *Fr. BEGUE* in our Masses and prayers--and may he receive well-deserved *Eternal Rest in Heaven!* Sincerely, *Bernard Lewandowski, President FRIENDS of PRIESTS of Greater St. Louis*

St. Louis, Missouri

January 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *May God Bless, Father Begue. I will pray for him.*

Marion Morris - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *We prayerfully remember you, Fr. Begue! Well done thy good and faithful priest/servant! Requiescat in Pace.All His Friends fromST. AGATHA PARISHSt. Louis, MO*

St. Louis, Missouri

January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *To the BEGUE FAMILY and the VINCENTIANS:Please be assured of our deepest prayerful sympathy on the passing of longtime Vincentian priest FR. JOSEPH BEGUE, C.M.Father BEGUE's dedication as a longtime Priest, director of The Vincentian Press, senior associate at St. Agatha Parish in St. Louis, as well as in his many other assignments, make him memorable to quite a few of the Catholic people he so diligently served as a Priest for more than 60 years.May God Grant Him Eternal Rest in Heaven, and know that he will be remembered in our prayers and Masses during the coming year.Sincerely,The Bereavement Committee of theKNIGHTS of COLUMBUS*

January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ *Gone is a wonderful and passionate priest whom we very much respected. We will pray for you Fr Begue..and thank you for all your encouragement!*

Gregory Morelli - January 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM