

Rev. John L. Yates, C.S.Sp.

Fr. John Yates, C.S.Sp., 91 of Bethel Park, a member of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, died peacefully on Saturday, May 3, 2014 at Golden Living Center in Waynesburg, PA. He was 91 years of age.

Father Yates was born July 20, 1922 in Brooklyn, NY. He served in the United States Navy during World War II from April 3, 1943 to February 10, 1946. He professed his vows as member of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit on August 22, 1948 at Holy Ghost Novitiate in Ridgefield, CT and was ordained to the Priesthood on June 3, 1954 at St. Mary's Seminary, Ferndale, in Norwalk, CT.

His assignments over almost 60 years in the priesthood include: Vocation Director, St. Mary's Seminary (1955-56); parish ministry from 1956-1997 in Lake Charles, Carencro and New Orleans, LA; Tucson, AZ; Hemet and Riverside, CA; and served also in the Mexican Missions at El Pujal and Tanlajas. He was appointed to be a member of the Novitiate team at St. Mary's Seminary (1977-1980). From 1997-2000, he was pastor at St. Joseph's Church in Conway, AR; in November 2000 he was assigned pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Center Ridge, AR. Fr. Yates had been a resident of Libermann Hall, the Spiritan Retirement Community in Bethel Park since April 2010.

Fr. Yates was preceded in death by his parents Joseph and Elizabeth Dengel Yates and siblings Joseph Yates, Helen Briganti, and Thomas Yates. He is survived by his three sisters and two brothers Blanche Yates, Mary Esposito, Larry Yates, Carmen Ochman, and Paul Yates and numerous nieces and nephews.

There will be viewing in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel at the Spiritan Center, 6230 Brush Run Road, Bethel Park on Wednesday May 7, 2014 from 9:00 – 10:45 AM followed by the Funeral Mass which will be celebrated with the local Spiritan community at 11:00 AM. Burial will take place at St. Mary's Cemetery, O'Hara Twp. in Pittsburgh, PA.