



Rev. Henry M. Cunney

June 4, 1934 - April 2, 2020

Rev. Henry M. Cunney, 85, passed away on Thursday, April 2, 2020. He was a priest of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston for sixty-one years.

Born in Salem on June 4, 1934, he was the son of the late Henry and Alice (Buckley) Cunney. A son of Immaculate Conception Parish, he was educated in Salem schools and was a graduate of St. Mary's High School in Lynn, Class of 1951. He attended archdiocesan seminaries and was ordained to the priesthood on Feb. 2, 1959 by Richard Cardinal Cushing.

During the next 61 years, his priestly ministry was exercised in parishes and on high school and college campuses across the archdiocese.

Between 1959 and 1964 he was an assistant at three parishes: St. Peter's, Gloucester; St. Andrew the Apostle, Forest Hills; and Blessed Sacrament, Walpole.

His first foray into campus ministry was his three-year assignment as chaplain at Nazareth Academy in Wakefield. In 1967 he returned to parish ministry with assignments at St. Agatha, Milton and St. Joseph, Wakefield.

Returning closer to home, Father Henry was named chaplain at Bishop Fenwick High School in Peabody in 1970, and in 1973 he was named assistant at St. Agnes, Arlington. In 1976 he was named assistant at St. Mary of the Hills Parish, Milton, remaining there until June 1986.

He served again briefly in campus ministry, though this time at the college level, when he served as chaplain at Regis College.

He was named parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Parish, Roslindale in 1987 and pastor of Nativity Parish in Merrimac in 1991. He also served as pastor at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Nahant. In 2001 he was named parochial vicar at St. Richard's Parish, Danvers

and was named a senior priest of the archdiocese in 2008. He remained active at St. Richard's for several years until becoming a resident of Regina Cleri, Boston. He continued to remain active while at Regina Cleri, assisting in several parishes and celebrating Mass on CatholicTV.

Father Henry loved travel and organizing parish trips both in the U.S. and abroad. Affable and good-natured, he was beloved by both his parishioners and his brother priests to whom he was always ready to help with a smile and kind word. He was also a passionate sports fan and followed all of Boston's teams and the Notre Dame Fighting Irish. Predeceased by his brother, G. Vincent Cunney, he leaves behind family including several nephews and a niece and many cousins.

Graveside services will be held privately in Saint Mary Cemetery, Salem. A Memorial Mass will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to clergytrust.org/regina-cleri.

Comments



“ Dear father Cunney's Family,

My family were parishioners at The Church of the Nativity in Merrimac when Father Cunney was the pastor. He made our parish a community; organizing trips to the roller skating rink, to the Boston Symphony, holiday dances, as well as ministering to our spiritual needs. He was such a kind, compassionate person and much-loved by everyone.

Sincere condolences,
Pat Adams

Patricia Adams - April 28 at 01:01 PM



“ I am a parishioner at St. Richard's in Danvers where Father Cunney served. His sermons were insightful and included thoughtful recommendations on how to live a better life and serve others. I appreciated his jokes at the end of Mass and, even though some were corny, they made me smile. He was a special person. My prayers are with his family. Elizabeth Chouinard

Elizabeth Chouinard - April 11 at 09:47 AM



“ To the family of Fr. Cunney,
We are so sorry to hear of Fr. Cunney's passing. He was a wonderful man. He was always pleasant and was very encouraging to our children and accepting of their individuality. He continued to serve here in Nahant long after he had retired which was very much appreciated by everyone. He is missed.

Our sincere condolences. Anna and Ed Manzano

anna marie manzano - April 09 at 07:15 PM



“ To Father Henry's Family - very sorry to hear the news and my deepest condolences. Fond memories of his many visits growing up and his love for the Bruins. My prayers are with you.

Blair Buckley

Blair Buckley - April 09 at 12:56 PM



“ Dear Father Cunney's family,
We are so sorry to hear of Fr. Cunney's passing. We enjoyed him very much when he was in Nahant at our St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Rest in Peace Fr. Cunney
Linda and Jim Cunningham
Nahant

Linda Cunningham - April 09 at 11:09 AM



“ Dear Family of Fr. Cunney,

I was so sad to learn of Fr. Cunney's passing. We o my met him a few years ago when he would help with Mass at St Johns in Swampscott. He was also so kind and welcoming. He will be surely missed. God Bless!

MCro - April 10 at 08:24 PM



“ To the family of Fr. Henry,

I am so sad to read of the passing of Fr. Henry. He was such a wonderful priest/friend. When he was stationed at St. Richard's Parish, he would drop by St. Mary's School to see the students and staff. My class had the privilege of weekly visits. Fr. Henry shared stories, and his love of God to the children. He was well liked by the students, and they always looked forward to his visits.

May you rest in peace.

Kathy Armstrong

St. Mary of the Annunciation School

Kathy Armstrong - April 07 at 03:48 PM