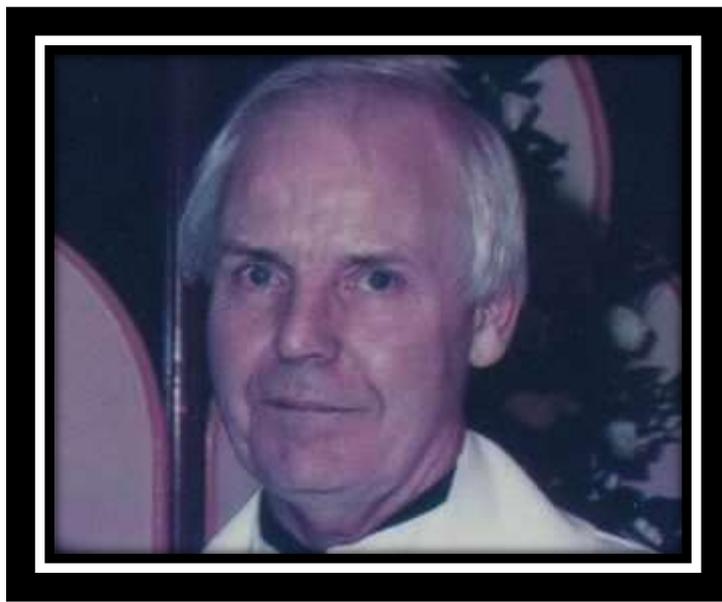


FATHER MICHAEL NEALON RIP



Fr Michael Nealon will be brought to the presbytery on Sunday 18th December. The presbytery will be open for viewing through Monday prior to reception into St Theresa's Church at 6.30pm on 19th December

The Requiem Mass will be at St Malachy's at 12 noon on Tuesday 20th December

Fr Michael Nealon will then be interred in Queensbury cemetery.

It was with shock and great sadness that we heard of the death of Fr Michael Nealon who died in hospital on the afternoon of Thursday 8th December after a short illness from which we all thought he was improving, but sadly this was not to be.

Fr Nealon was born in Leeds on 16th August 1938 where his family were parishioners at St. Joseph's in Hunslet. He trained for the priesthood at Usher College in County Durham, going at the age of 16. Fr Nealon was ordained on 12th June 1965 at Leeds Cathedral to serve in the Diocese of Leeds.

Fr Nealon started his ministry at St Marie's in Sheffield but was soon transferred to St Joseph's in Bradford where he remained until 1971. A move to St Patrick's in Huddersfield followed and then in 1979 Father Nealon was appointed Parish Priest of St Joseph's in Pontefract. From Pontefract he then moved back to Bradford to be Parish Priest at St William's in 1986. It was from St William's in 1994 that Bishop Konstant appointed Fr Nealon as our Parish Priest here at St Theresa's.

Fr Michael Nealon was our Parish Priest for just over twenty two years until his retirement from active ministry in 2016. However he chose to spend his retirement

here in Queensbury and therefore we have enjoyed his friendship for a further six years.

“Fr Michael was known throughout the Diocese as a dedicated priest and a good and gentle man.”

We have been so fortunate to experience Fr. Nealon’s dedication to his ministry and the good and gentle man that he was. He would come to the front, at the head of the aisle, adjust his glasses to hold in one hand and speak about our faith, explaining the readings and their meaning in our present day world. He shared his faith by the way he embraced and worked with the other Churches in Queensbury, regularly leading Lenten talks and Walks of Witness.

Fr. Nealon’s ‘listening ear’ was bent many times - always giving reasoned answers following them up with ‘check up’ chats later! I personally appreciated his calls during lockdown checking on my welfare as would others. His little stories..... references to his own family.... casual conversations... Fr Nealon always had time for everyone in his own quiet unassuming way. Wherever you go in the village the people of Queensbury held him in high regard. Some of the comments: a kind man; always had time to talk; quiet but liked a joke: always had a story to tell; tipped his hat when saying good day; a kind and caring man; felt a spiritual hug in his presence.

As parishioners Fr. Nealon was not only our spiritual guide but also our friend. Whilst we will mourn his loss greatly we are so much richer for knowing him.



May the choirs of angels come to greet him. May they speed him to paradise. May the Lord enfold him in His mercy. May he find eternal life. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

