



The Reverend Richard M. Miles

May 13, 1943 - June 15, 2023

The Reverend Richard Michael Miles, a priest of the Archdiocese of New Orleans for thirty-seven years and beloved Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Kenner, LA entered into eternal life on the vigil of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Grand Rapids, MI on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 3:13 p.m.

He was 80 years of age. Father Miles was born on May 13, 1943, in Wyandotte, Michigan. He attended elementary school in Pomona, CA. His secondary education was at Lutheran West High School in Detroit, MI. Fr. Miles earned B.A. and M.A. degrees from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI and a M. Div. from Concordia Lutheran Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. He was a Lutheran pastor in Winamac, IN, and Bogalusa, LA. After much prayer and with the guidance and help of Archbishop Philip Hannan he entered the North American College in Rome. On May 3, 1984, His Holiness, John Paul II, ordained Fr. Miles to the priesthood at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. He served as Associate Pastor at St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Church in New Orleans and St. Catherine of Siena Church in Metairie. He was Parochial Vicar at St. Philip Neri Church in Metairie, and his pastorate was at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Kenner until his retirement in 2021. When he was assigned to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Fr. Miles' major goal was the "Spiritual Renewal of The Parish." He opened the Perpetual Adoration Chapel at OLPH in 1994, which he called the "Spiritual Power House of the parish." He taught himself Latin and started offering the

Latin Mass with permission of the Archbishop. Father Miles promoted many devotions to enrich the spiritual lives of his parishioners including Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, The Holy Face, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Joseph, St. Rosalie, and St. Philomena. He enthroned the OLPH rectory, church and school to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and encouraged families to do the same in their homes. Father Miles is preceded in death by his father Corbin Isaac Miles, Sr. and his mother Palma Chirillo Miles; two brothers, Corbin Miles, Jr. and Donald Miles. He is survived by a sister, Jenny Miles Botz (Larry) and many nieces, nephews and great nieces and great nephews. Parishioners, clergy and friends are invited to attend the funeral. A funeral mass will be celebrated at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, 500 Minor Street, Kenner, LA on Friday, June 23, 2023 at 11:00 a.m., The Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond, Archbishop of New Orleans, celebrant. Visitation at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church on Thursday from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Interment in St. Louis Cemetery No. 3. Donations to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 1908 Short Street, Kenner, LA 70062 in Fr. Miles' name or masses preferred.

Arrangements by L. A. Muhleisen and Son Funeral Home, 2607 Williams Blvd., Kenner, LA. To share memories or condolences, please visit www.muheisen.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **22**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church
500 Minor Street
Kenner, LA 70062

Visitation

JUN **23**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church
500 Minor Street
Kenner, LA 70062

Funeral Mass

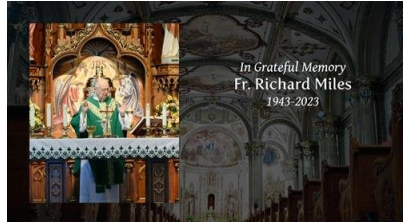
JUN **23**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church
500 Minor Street
Kenner, LA 70062

Tribute Wall



“ L.A. Muhleisen & Son Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of The Reverend Richard M. Miles



L.A. Muhleisen & Son Funeral Home - June 21, 2023 at 01:12 PM

PK

Thank you for sharing this beautiful video. I live in Wisconsin now, but my tears are flowing down the 1001 miles to Metairie. I have a large canvas of St. Philomena I bought at OLPH that hangs in my living room in memory of Fr. Miles. The world still needs him, but I rejoice that he is receiving his well-deserved crown of righteousness. Fr. Miles was a gift from God.

Paula Madere Kinler - June 22, 2023 at 01:53 AM

BW

I will miss Father Miles for the rest of my life. He was my Soul leader, and I miss him more than words can state. He brought me back into the Church, and for that I will ever be grateful. He is definitely a Saint.

Barbara Wilkinson - June 22, 2023 at 10:50 AM

BM

Though he was not officially my spiritual director, Fr. Miles heard my confessions hundreds of times. He taught me the value of prayer and sacrifice in being a priest and lived out what it meant to have a life hidden with Christ in God. I know that he is in the arms of our Lord.

Bo Majors - June 22, 2023 at 11:30 AM

DD

A man who loved being a priest. One of God's great disciple. He was a great blessing to me and all that knew him. Fr. Miles rest in peace you deserve it.

Dottie Duncan - June 22, 2023 at 05:43 PM

LM

Father Miles was a true shepherd. He was really good at pointing all of us to our true shepherd, Lord Jesus Christ. Even though many many people would want to speak to him when you were in front of him he made you feel like you were the only one he made you feel special. He made me feel like a daughter. I will miss him every day of my life. I am happy for him. He's dancing with Jesus. All of us have benefited from his joy. I am eternally grateful for his friendship, kindness words of wisdom, words of comfort to my family, and I.

Lisa Bourgeois Markey - June 22, 2023 at 07:33 PM



BEAUTIFUL!!!! I smiled the entire video. He was a blessing to me and my family. His love for the Catholic church was infectious! Rest in Eternal Peace, Sir. Watch over us.

Patricia Russo - June 22, 2023 at 08:31 PM

HK

Father Miles, we first witness you saying mass at St. Phillip Neri Church and in the 1990's we began to worship weekly at OLPH to hear your masses and inspiring homilies that always had a personal touch with humor. You will be missed but never forgotten. We pray for you, your sister Jenny and your family. May you rest in peace. Amen

Heather and Richard Keilich - June 22, 2023 at 08:59 PM

CM

Father Miles was so devoted to Our Lady and The Eucharist. When he first came to OLPH, he would sit in the confessional before mass and say his rosary, waiting and no one in line. He talked to all of us that we need to go to confession. That soon changed. No matter if it was the set time, all you had to do was ask.

He has a special place in my heart for his kindness and love to both of my parents.

He was very close to my Mother and Dad, Leo and Bertha Sanchez The day before my Mother passed away, he came to the hospital to give her blessings.

My Mother started crying when he came in to room because he just had surgery a week before and hadn't started masses yet. She died the next day. He will always have a special place in my heart. He is now getting his reward for his faithfulness and service to Our Lord. He will be missed.

Carol McKee - June 23, 2023 at 11:52 AM

NV

Thanks for share this beautiful video. He helped me through so many hard times. I was blessed. He has and will be missed 🙏

Norma Veade - June 25, 2023 at 10:28 PM

MT

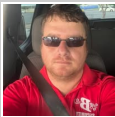
He comforted me during the darkest days pf my life. You are remembered as a truly kind and loving soul. You will be missed.💔

Matieal Thomas - June 26, 2023 at 04:25 PM

 Ron
Di
Stefano

Devoted. He will be missed.

Ron Di Stefano - June 30, 2023 at 06:24 PM



Father Miles thank you for the many years of friendship since I was a kid thank you for helping me when I was down on my luck you were a Lessing to so many now you can rest in the kingdom of heaven my friend.

Ryan Trahan - November 30, 2023 at 10:17 AM

DB

Reverend Richard was one of the most honest priests I've ever met and so much feelings that came out showed on his his heart to the whole world when I lost my son Shannon Joseph I couldn't even catch my breath but I attended Reverend Richard miles Church our lady Perpetual Health off of 4th Street he was amazing I shared my life with him I could truly feel the Holy Spirit from him he always spoke about his mother he will be missed very much but I know one day we'll all see him in heaven because that's where he is truly by his father's side

Donna M Baughman - August 03, 2024 at 03:49 PM



“ *The Reverend Richard M. Miles*

October 15, 2023 at 09:39 PM



“ *8 files added to the tribute wall*



Chris Miles - June 25, 2023 at 02:59 PM

MV

“ My condolences to Fr. Miles family and fellow parishioners. Father Miles was a very important part of my recovery from drugs and alcohol. He never judged, criticized or put any more guilt and shame on my shoulders than what I had already put on myself. He was very comforting and reassuring. We talked about my disease of addiction and he helped me see that I was worth fighting for and still of value to my community, my family but more importantly to myself. He reassured me repeatedly that I was still a child of God and was not a bad person, but a sick person. He was very generous when sharing with me his short comings. He prayed with me, prayed for me, and continued to encourage me to pursue my personal relationship with God. He saw the value in efforts to pave the way to a brighter future and reminded me often of remaining humble and of service to other people and to offer love, compassion and forgiveness to others who struggle with addiction and/or alcoholism. Fr. Miles heard my confession many times. He was the first and only priest that I eventually felt comfortable enough to give my confession face to face. He put me at ease and provided such grace in his feedback and prayers. I will never forget Fr. Miles and will always cherish his memory and will never forget how through God, saved my life. May his beautiful soul rest in peace.

Michele V. - June 25, 2023 at 06:46 AM

PM

“ I'm Pam Miles. Richard was my brother in law. So many fond memories. He was just a teenager when his brother, Corbin and I were married. He was the best man at our wedding. He spent many vacations with us over the years and we spent a lot of time with him at OLPH. I could go on and on with stories about him, but sufficient to say, he will be missed and he was very much loved by his family. Rest in peace Richard.

Pam Miles - June 23, 2023 at 06:31 PM

RF

*Father Miles was our pastor for 25 Years until we moved from Kenner five years ago. We loved him as our pastor for 25 years. And we will miss him for the rest of our lives. A tremendous blessing was waiting for us when we arrived at OLPH in 1993 that we will treasure forever. The blessing was being part of the flock that he shepherded. Renee and Tommy Fernandez,
Donaldsonville La.*

Renee and Tommy Fernandez - June 23, 2023 at 06:46 PM

GF

“ Post

Geraldine Faia - June 23, 2023 at 01:11 PM

DW

“ First of all, to the family of Fr. Miles, please accept my sincere condolences for your tremendous loss. I know you will find comfort in knowing how loved he was.

Fr. Miles was my dear friend and favorite priest EVER! After knowing him for many years from St. Philip Neri Parish, he officiated at my wedding the evening of Dec. 31, 1997, unselfishly postponing his kidney cancer surgery a few days (without my knowledge until he told me in the confessional after the rehearsal). It was in East Jefferson Hospital that I met his sweet sister, Jenny.

While I was studying to become a Director of Religious Education, I had a Spirituality class assignment to write about someone [famous] who inspired me spirituality. Most classmates wrote about Mother Teresa. I wrote my paper but decided to step outside the box and personally interview and video Fr. Miles. He was so genuine, so REAL, so sincere, and so humble - always making time for others and always putting others first. He talked about his entire spiritual journey, and I wanted others to get to know him. I was allowed to play the video for the class, and all were in AWE of him!

During another of our visits, I had to tell him to lay off the carrot juice because he was turning orange trying to eat healthfully after his kidney surgery. He loved my cooking and we cherished our visits and phone conversations. I loved so many things about him - his warmth, his singing voice, but mostly his ability to draw people in and keep them coming.

When I was hospitalized for two weeks in Oct. 2020, no visitors were allowed because of COVID restrictions, although I did not have COVID. After several unsuccessful attempts to get a priest or even the hospital chaplain, I called Fr. Miles and he heard my confession from over my hospital phone, and I received Spiritual Communion. Nothing was too much trouble for him!

Although we were both barely mobile when I visited him right before

he left for Michigan, he anointed me and asked me to pray that we both have HAPPY DEATHS. I prayed for this every night thereafter.

I know I now have another ADVOCATE in Heaven! God Bless You, good and faithful servant - God is well pleased! Thank you for being my friend and so much more!

-Donna Ward-

Donna Ward - June 23, 2023 at 12:46 PM

SK

“ *He was an incredible confessor. So open minded and compassionate in the confessional! Not even his parishioner but worth the trip.*

Stephanie Kenning - June 23, 2023 at 11:18 AM

GF

“ *Father Miles was so kind and helpful to me when my husband passed away. I saw him weekly for a few months and I was so great full.*

Gloria Farrell - June 22, 2023 at 10:11 PM

HK

“ One of our favorite last memories of Father Miles was seeing him enjoy the children performing "Tupa Tupa" at the St. Joseph Altar in The La Rose Center. Then you dined with them and then you taste the delicious food and said "Mangia, Mangia!" (Eat up!!). Thank you for going to see my Father and our friend after their surgeries. I will cherish the rosary you gave me, it was comforting. You will never be forgotten. Rest in Peace. Amen



Heather and Richard Keilich - June 22, 2023 at 09:17 PM

DR

“ My Codolence for the passing of Father Miles. When my Dad passed away in 2007 he was so very nice to my family. May he rest in peace. Donna Zito Rieder

Donna Zito Rieder - June 22, 2023 at 09:47 AM

BM

“ Our condolences to his family on Fr. Miles passing. We were so blessed that he was our pastor at OLPH, our spiritual leader and friend. Our deepest sympathies to Jennie and his family.
Sincerely, Joe and Bertha Marino & family



Bertha Marino - June 21, 2023 at 10:28 PM

RL

Father Mikes was the father of our parish and he taught me and so many Catholics a lot about the saints and the Catholic Church . He has been missed greatly since his retirement.

Our deepest sympathies to his family .

Father Miles is lived and missed by many . We are glad to have him home in his church tonight .

Rest in peace with the angels in heaven 🙏

Rita Landry - June 22, 2023 at 09:46 PM

PK

“ *I live in Wisconsin since 2013, but when I lived in St. Charles Parish, I would make a point to have Mass with Fr. Miles at least once a month. He was a profound Confessor. I am 66 years old, and Fr. Miles was the only Priest who ever asked if he could come around the screen so he could anoint my forehead after I confessed. He was an extraordinary Priest with God-given charisms that were palpable. I know he is destined for Sainthood. I had a transplant in 2020, and I longed for one of his awesome blessings.*

Paula Madere Kinler - June 21, 2023 at 10:03 PM

AB

Rest in Peace good and faithful priest servant. We love you! The beautiful video in your obituary on funeral home website says it all! We love you. Please pray for us.

Andrea and Luke (RIP) Bacino

andrea Bacino - June 22, 2023 at 11:26 AM