



Memo from the Bishop

Number 74 ✕ October 13, 2020

FATHER SHAW OBITUARY: This bulletin is comprised exclusively of the obituary for Father David Shaw. He was devoted to assuring the stability of the Priests Pension Fund and so we do owe him a special debt of gratitude for his work in this arena.

Father David Shaw (11/29/1942 - 10/12/2020)

Father David Shaw, a priest of the Diocese of Santa Rosa entered into eternal life on Monday, October 12 after a battle with cancer of the esophagus. Father Shaw was 77 years of age and had served as a priest for 52 years.

Father David was born in Huntington Park, California on November 29, 1942. Father David began his studies in High School at Pius X High School, Downey, California and Our Lady Queen of the Angels Minor Seminary in San Fernando. After completing High School, he attended Saint John Seminary in Camarillo and Assumption Seminary in San Antonio for his theological studies. He was ordained as a priest for the Diocese of Santa Rosa on June 1, 1968.

During his time of priestly service, Father Shaw served at Saint Rose in Santa Rosa, Saint Thomas in Napa and Saint Vincent de Paul Parish in Petaluma. He taught at Saint Vincent de Paul High School with residence at Saint James in Petaluma, he also taught at Saint Bernard High School in Eureka and served at Sacred Heart Parish in Eureka. He held the position of Director of the Office of Worship and Evangelization while resident at Star of the Valley in Oakmont and finally served as pastor of Resurrection Parish in Santa Rosa from 1989 until his retirement in 2018.

At the time of his retirement, the Bishop wrote to him: “Father Shaw, I have not told you often enough of my profound appreciation for your years of dedicated service to the Diocese but please know that the gratitude abides. I have heard of and personally witnessed your faithful and consistent priestly ministry and I am profoundly grateful to you for this beautiful service. I pray that God abundantly blesses and rewards you for your faithful service.”

Since 2007, Father David, in addition to his many years of dedicated service to parishes, served on the Clergy Personnel Board of the Diocese, the Catholic Community Foundation Board and the Diocese of Santa Rosa Priests Pension Board. He was very instrumental in the year 2000 in assisting Cardinal (then Archbishop) Levada in restoring the Priests Pension Fund and was elected by his peers for successive terms to serve on this Board.

Father David is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his sister and her husband, Sally and Bob Boothe, a niece, Sally and a nephew, John. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be very limited due to Covid-19 restrictions. Messages of condolence may be sent C/O Father William Donahue, Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, 35 Liberty Street, Petaluma, CA 94952.

MASSES TO BE OFFERED: The priests of the Diocese of Santa Rosa by custom and by Diocesan policy are obliged to apply three Masses for the repose of the soul of Father David Shaw. May he rest in eternal peace.