



Rev. James Raymond Shelton

June 16, 1933 - July 29, 2020

JMJ Father James Raymond Shelton, a Roman Catholic Priest, died from cardiac complications on July 29, 2020 at the age of 87 years old. Father was born June 16, 1933 in Youngstown, Ohio to James Matthew Shelton and Sara Petty Shelton. He was preceded in death by his parents and six elder siblings: Joe, Jack, Ellen, Bill, Tom and Pat.

Father attended elementary school at St. Stephens Grade School in Niles, Ohio. He attended St. Paul High School and Minor Seminary in Canfield, Ohio from 1947 to 1951. His college years were spent in Youngstown College and later Youngstown University and finally Mexico City College in Mexico City, Mexico from 1951 to 1955.

Upon graduation from College he entered the US Navy, US Atlantic Fleet on 2 May 1957 and was honorably discharged on 8 November 1962.

Throughout his school years and military service Father contemplated the Roman Catholic Priesthood, but when his Brother married in Germany he said he thought he should strike out to find a wife in Switzerland. However Our Blessed Mother had other plans for him. She was the "woman" he found (or rather who found him) on his travels through the Holy Lands, Rome, Fatima, Portugal, and Lourdes, France. His circuitous trips around the world 6 times ultimately led him to Perth Australia where he was ordained a Roman Catholic

Priest, incardinated in the Dioceses of Perth, Australia on June 30, 2000, and where he served until November 2010.

At that time he came to Gainesville, Virginia, to support our newly established Holy Trinity Catholic Parish where he served faithfully as a Priest-in-Residence until January 2017. His service to the Arlington Dioceses and Holy Trinity Parish involved much work directing several Legion of Mary praesidia and the Knights of Columbus councils of Holy Trinity Parish in Gainesville and All Saints Parish in Manassas, VA.

In May 2019 he moved to the Fairmont Holiday independent retirement community until a recent hospitalization and ultimately his death on July 29 , 2020. Father Shelton has been loved and admired by all the communities he served during his lifetime and will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. He provided a prime example of conservative Roman Catholic living for our community and we will miss him and honor him for all that he gave to our growing Catholic community during these challenging years.

There will be a visitation at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 8213 Linton Hall Road, Gainesville, VA 20155 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on August 12. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at Holy Trinity Catholic Church at 11:00 a.m. on August 13, with burial at the Quantico Military Cemetery in Quantico, VA at 1:30 p.m. on August 13, 2020.

Cemetery Details

Quantico National Cemetery

18424 Joplin Road
Triangle, VA 22172

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 12. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
8213 Linton Hall Road
Gainesville, VA 20155
<http://holytrinityparish.net/>

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
8213 Linton Hall Road
Gainesville, VA 20155
<http://holytrinityparish.net/>

Tribute Wall

IG

“ We met Father Jim in Perth, Western Australia in 2005. We befriended him and he became a frequent visitor to our home which he consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He also married us. We remember Father Jim fondly and dearly and for the long and meaningful conversations we had together on many topics, including history and religion. He inspired us to be devoted to the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary among other things. Father Jim helped the Spanish speaking community in in various religious activities as he was fluent in the Spanish language. Father Jim was greatly loved and respected in our community and we are saddened by his departure.

*Ernesto and Iwona Godinez
Perth Western Australia
13 August 2020*

Iwona/Ernesto Godinez - August 13, 2020 at 08:43 AM

IG

“ Iwona/Ernesto Godinez lit a candle in memory of Rev. James Raymond Shelton



Iwona/Ernesto Godinez - August 13, 2020 at 08:21 AM

NO

I am a priest with Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. I knew Fr Jim in Rome before he was ordained. He visited me in Tijuana Mexico when I was there. Jim was pious and orthodox.RIP, Fr Nicholas Harding omi

Nicholas Harding omi - December 19, 2023 at 10:03 PM

MW

“ *Fr. Shelton served the students of Holy Family Academy for many years by offering Mass at the school and hearing confessions. He celebrated both Extraordinary and Ordinary Form Mass. He was so generous that he would sometimes come 3 days a week.*

The students will always remember his generosity, which was illustrated by his desire to continue celebrating Mass even when he had to be helped up and down the steps to the high altar. The servers will always remember special it was to lend their arms to Father while he negotiated the steps. I will always remember how special it was to pick him up and drop him off. He was a man of the Church, both as priest and layman, all his life.

*Mo Woltering
Headmaster
Holy Family Academy
08/08/2020*

Mo Woltering - August 08, 2020 at 09:52 AM