



Arthur Lee Dasher IV

November 14, 1937 - May 28, 2021

Arthur Lee Dasher IV passed away on May 28, 2021. He was 83 years old.

Arthur was born in Macon, GA on November 14, 1937 to Mr. Arthur & Doris (Reynolds) Dasher. He graduated from Sidney Lanier Senior High School for Boys, Stetson University, 1955 (BA), Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University, 1962 (STB), and Rollins College, 1984 (MAT, Masters of Arts in Teaching).

Ordained in 1962 at St. Michael Episcopal Church in Orlando, he was the assistant to Fr. Vernon Quigley, his mentor. While there, he developed his ministry as a spiritual guide/counselor and teacher. He inherited his love of teaching from his mother, a teacher in Macon, GA and St. Petersburg, FL for 50 years.

His first love as an Episcopal priest was experiencing the joy of people finding their relationship with God through Jesus Christ. He loved the liturgy of the Church, especially when celebrating the Mass. Another joyous aspect of his 50 years as a priest was seeing what inspired lay can accomplish when God gave them a significant challenge. When rector of the churches in Belle Glade and Pahokee, FL, the drug culture was moving in from the coast. The Church of St. John the Apostle rented a dilapidated restaurant, fixed it up and created a place for children and teenagers to go after school and in the evening,

complete with game tables, organized sports, guided study hall, and a snack bar. A couple of Young Life workers were hired to supervise the program and provide Christian ministry. It was appropriately named "His Place".

As rector of The Church of the Messiah in Winter Garden, he saw the need for a ministry of clothing, baby food, and supplies for pregnant mothers. Parishioners picked up the challenge and rented the abandoned train station. Fr. Dasher procured the support of Dr. Earl Scarberry, Director of The Christian Service Center in Orlando, who allowed the group to use its charitable organization status 501(C)(3). Here began what is now the West Orange Branch of the Center.

Later, as rector of St. Mary of the Angels Church in Belle Isle, FL, the congregation rose to his challenge to adopt a refugee family from Sudan in Africa. Housing, food, clothing, and employment were provided by the congregation and the family became functioning members of the church. At the same time a Latino ministry (Santa Maria de Los Angeles) and a Haitian ministry (Sainte Marie des Anges) were begun, each with its own priest.

During a hiatus from parish ministry Fr. Dasher was the Director of Development for the Edgewood Children's Ranch, director of church and community relations in Tampa, Jacksonville, and Orlando for Campus Crusade for Christ, and Executive director of the Christian Service Center of Orlando.

After he retired as an Episcopal priest, Arthur converted to Catholicism. He led Bible studies at St. James Catholic Church for several years. He also volunteered as a facilitator for "That Man is You" at St. James.

He is survived by his wife, Frances Demetree-Dasher, daughters Victoria Amos (Richard) of Mooresville, NC and Jennifer Reynolds Dasher of

Swannanoa NC; grandchildren Katie Savannah McBroom (Tony) of Kansas City, MO, and Parker Amos of Mooresville, NC; stepchildren, Amy Climer (Julie) of Asheville, NC, Karen Climer of Orlando, and Gregory Climer of San Francisco, CA; and sisters Donna Priest of Columbus, GA and Ruth Dasher Grimes (William) of Lawrenceville, GA.

Arthur and Frances enjoyed experiencing the many cultures in their travels, especially those in China, New Zealand, Australia, and Europe. Arthur enjoyed flowers and vegetable gardening and was known to give away loads of mint and collard greens. He was an avid Georgia Bulldog fan (some would say fanatic). The highlight of his sports world was seeing the DAWGS beat the Gators in 1980 and then going on to beat Notre Dame for the national championship. He was known to end most conversations with “Go DAWGS”.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, June 8 at 2pm at St James Catholic Cathedral followed by a reception at the Orlando Country Club. A family private inurnment will be held the next day. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that you consider a memorial contribution to the Russell Home for Atypical Children in Orlando, a ministry dearly loved and supported by Arthur.

The family of Arthur Dasher invites you to leave a message of condolence on the Tribute Wall created in his memory.

Rosary Service

7:00 pm, Monday, June 7, 2021

DeGusipe Funeral Home, 9001 N. Orlando Ave., Maitland, FL 32751

Funeral Service

2:00 pm, Tuesday, June 8, 2021

St. James Cathedral in Orlando, FL

Reception following the funeral at Orlando County Club, 1601 Country Club
Dr, Orlando, FL 32804

3:30 pm, Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Previous Events

Rosary

JUN 7. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory Maitland Chapel
9001 N. Orlando Ave
Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 695-2273
todd@degusipe.com
<https://www.degusipefuneralhome.com>

Funeral Mass

JUN 8. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. James Cathedral
215 N Orange Ave
Orlando, FL 32801

Reception to Follow Funeral Mass

JUN 8. 3:30 PM (ET)

Country Club of Orlando
1601 Country Club Drive
Orlando, FL 32804
<http://www.countrycluboforlando.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ As a 12 year old in 1967, My mom and I attended St. John’s Episcopal Church in Belle Glade, Fl. Father Dasher was instrumental in my life and the lives of my friends in Belle Glade Jr. Hi. As a 13 year old Father Dasher led me to Jesus as my Savior. I remember when the “Coffee House” was built in 1969-1970 time frame. It was a great place to hang out in a town where there wasn’t many positive places to hang out. After Father Dasher and family moved to Winter Garden he was dearly missed. I remember climbing in a micro-bus (like the hippies used to ride in) with three friends and we all went to visit Father Dasher in Winter Garden. He welcomed us with open arms and we spent 2 or 3 days with him and his family before coming back home. Although we went our separate ways and never met again he has always been near and dear in my heart.

Gene Dalton - June 19, 2021 at 09:42 PM



“ I met Art Dasher when I was all of 5 years old. He was our Vicar at St. Michaels. Oh, how I adored and looked up to him!!!! Many years went by and I was 25 yrs old. I heard that Art Dasher was an assistant at All Saints/Winter Park. I loved Jesus but, honestly, I'd walked away for a number of years. I filled out the card in the pew, asking Art to call me. What a reunion....for me to know Art in full fashion...but mostly to know Jesus Christ in full fashion. For a year he mentored me, and I grew. I loved his girls, Vicky and Jen. Mostly Jen. What strong relationships. In later years, Art and Frances lived across the lake from us and would walk their dogs, or I'd see them in Publix. Gosh, those were always precious meetings. I can't begin to tell anyone reading what Art meant to me...in my youth, in my young adulthood, my later adulthood, or my post-50s and on. He showed me Jesus....what can be better than that?

Patty Tew - June 08, 2021 at 09:15 PM

DO

“ Art Dasher was a man with a mission to serve others. The Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation worked alongside of him through the many social service agencies Fr. Dasher was involved with. His good works continue to impact the community.

David A. Odahowski
President, CEO and Trustee
Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation

David Odahowski - June 07, 2021 at 12:25 PM

JT

“ Art Dasher was one of the first people I met and worked with when I moved up to Orlando from Stuart in 2000. He always impressed me with his friendliness, mirth and accessibility, combined with his keen grasp of the world and a sharp clarity of vision and purpose. I always knew I could rely on him for "real talk." He will be missed.

Joe Thoma - June 07, 2021 at 10:05 AM

MH

“ We heard his sermons for some years at St. Mary of the Angels. They always made you think about the Scriptures, sometimes in a new way. He was very kind in counseling a family member who was having emotional issues. He will be remembered by both of us and we know he is with God, whom he loved. Marie Hardy and Doug Hardy

Marie Hardy - June 05, 2021 at 11:34 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Arthur Lee Dasher IV.*



June 05, 2021 at 07:00 PM



“ *May God bless Father Dasher and I will always be grateful that you married my wife and I up in NY.*

Dorsey Gray - June 05, 2021 at 02:29 PM



“ *Father Dasher will always be in our hearts. I represent the Randles Family. We listened to him almost every Sunday at St. Mary's of the Angels Episcopal church. His sermons kept your attention and left you understanding better the word of God. It's been years since he moved on, sad to lose him back then. We knew he would continue to spread the word to others. Another Angel to greet us!*

Virginia Vermette - June 05, 2021 at 12:58 PM

SB

“ We met Art Dasher in 1974 when we moved to Windermere and found Church of the Messiah. His love of scripture inspired me and began my life long pilgrimage of study, teaching and service. His love of Liturgy infected me and lead me to study and understand its origins. Most of all to find the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. I am grateful to God for his ministry.
I am retired from the Diaconate in the Diocese of Georgia. Only a few people since Art have opened my mind and heart to see the living Lord, Jesus Christ reflected in scripture and Liturgy the way he did. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Swiss and Peter Britt.

Swiss Britt - June 05, 2021 at 09:59 AM

JV

“ Art became a wonderful friend and mentor to me about 5 years ago while I was serving as a volunteer chaplain at Nemours Children's Hospital in Lake Nona Fl. He served Nemours in an advisory capacity at the time. Our friendship grew over the years as we would meet for breakfast and pray together. He was always encouraging and a fine counselor. I will miss him greatly and will pray for the peace of the Lord for Frances and their families as they go through this difficult loss.

Jim Vennetti

Jim Vennetti - June 04, 2021 at 01:42 PM

DH

Father Dasher was a regular patient of mine at the dental office where I work. Believe it or not, we always managed to have deeply spiritual and meaningful conversations, and I always made sure to ask a question just as I had to change instruments so he had an opportunity to answer. I will miss him greatly, and pray for his family and his dear friend, Jim Vannetti. Father Dasher mentioned him often.

Donna Hedrick - June 05, 2021 at 03:32 PM

GH

“ *A great spiritual leader who put his faith into action for others. I enjoyed knowing him through his participation in The Rotary Club of Orlando.*

George Huffman - June 04, 2021 at 08:12 AM

 Rich
Ungaro

“ *Our deepest condolences to his family for the loss of this wonderful man. As a member of The Rotary Club of Orlando, we shall miss his wonderful smile and his presence at our Rotary meetings. My God Bless this wonderful man and we pray for his family.*



Rich Ungaro - June 04, 2021 at 07:55 AM

TW

“ *Father Art was a giant among Christians and Catholics and an engaging and genuine friend and fellow pilgrim. He will be sorely missed ... despite being a Georgia fan.*

Tom & Jean Wilkes - June 04, 2021 at 07:41 AM

TM

“ *One of the very best priests I ever knew. Even though he was a Georgia Bulldog I loved him. Heaven is a better place with him in it. He will be missed. The Reverend Danielle Morris*

The rev. Danielle Morris - June 03, 2021 at 09:00 PM

FR

He will be missed greatly by many. I can safely say I learned more about being a Christian than I ever did and we had some very good Priests at St. Mary of the Angels. Not only was he awesome at that but he was a friend to all. I will never forget him...many will miss him greatly.

Frieda Randles - June 04, 2021 at 05:07 PM

PM

By God's grace I met Fr Dasher in 1971. He led me to the Lord and started me on my journey with a solid foundation. Fr D was there for me every step of the way until I moved to England in 1974. Not many days pass without me thinking of him, and drawing on what he taught me. I have had many wonderful spiritual leaders since, but no one has ever replaced Fr D in my heart.

Penny Mitchell - June 05, 2021 at 04:25 AM

BH

Father Dasher has been such a HUGE part of the Russell Home and we will always remember his grace and love and most of all, the prayers he has prayed with us as we would faced challenges. We will always remember this amazing man as one that never left our side through good times and hard times but always left us with hope and love that he always made us feel. His love for our very special children and adults will continue in our hearts forever. Thank you to his family for always sharing him with all of us, we love you all and will always remember Our Father Dasher amazing way of loving and caring for others.

Betty Turner, Russell Home - June 05, 2021 at 11:50 AM