



Monsignor Edward J. Thompson

May 29, 1923 - February 11, 2016

Monsignor Edward J Thompson, 92, of St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church in Altamonte Springs passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 11.

Monsignor Thompson (Father Ed, as he was affectionately called) was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He attended St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia and was ordained at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral on May 19, 1951.

His priestly responsibilities included that of vocations director, high school teacher, hospital chaplain and pastor in the (arch)dioceses of Philadelphia and Reno-Las Vegas before retiring in 1991. In 1993, he was incardinated into the Diocese of Orlando by Bishop Norbert Dorsey, where he served nonstop at St. Mary Magdalen Parish.

Father Ed had a deep love for the Catholic faith and his greatest joy was to be a priest. He devoted his time to hearing confessions, leading parish retreats and prayer services, and hosting sessions to deepen the understanding of the faith. He was engaged in several ministries, including Knights of Columbus, Altar Servers and Scripture Class. But the highlight of his life was saying Mass, which he once described as the 'greatest privilege' on the face of the earth.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Elizabeth (John) Hutton and his twin brother, Most Reverend David B. Thompson. He is survived by nieces, nephews and numerous great nephews and nieces.

Funeral arrangements, all held at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church at 861

Maitland Avenue, Altamonte Springs

Previous Events

Wake

FEB 17. 7:00 PM (ET)

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church
861 Maitland Avenue
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701
(407) 831-1212
<http://www.stmarymagdalen.org>

Visitation

FEB 18. 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (ET)

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church
861 Maitland Avenue
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701
(407) 831-1212
<http://www.stmarymagdalen.org>

A Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 18. 6:00 PM (ET)

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church
861 Maitland Avenue
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701
(407) 831-1212
<http://www.stmarymagdalen.org>

Tribute Wall

KH

“ *Father Ed was an extraordinary Man of God. I attended his weekly bible study class in hopes that some of his holiness would rub off on me. - Dr. Keith*

Keith Huddleston - June 24, 2018 at 10:16 AM

TC

“ *Quite by accident I found a video where in Monsignor Thompson shared the story of his priestly vocation and his admiration for Venerable Archbishop Sheen. He said that he and his brother wanted to be like Sheen, that he had read every book published by Sheen, that he and his brother compared Sunday sermon notes and often said "what would Sheen say about it". I have to tell you that never before, in my life, have I heard such a priest talk about his ups and downs regarding his priestly life. I believe he spoke honestly and with heartfelt emotion as Sheen would have done, and I will say that his video was equally as powerful as any that Bishop Sheen could have given. With tears in my eyes I say thank you to the Good God for giving us this fine example of a Catholic Priest. Requiescat in pace.*

Timothy J Clint - February 06, 2018 at 12:04 PM

DA

“*Forgive me for coming late to this site. I knew Monsignor Thompson while living in Nevada in the late 1980s. He was truly an amazing person and devoted follower of Christ. In terms of theology and Church teaching he was about as "orthodox" as they come. But his heart was enormous, especially for those trapped in habitual patterns of sin. I clearly recall a discussion he had with a young zealous convert to Catholicism. The young man - a former Bible Christian - was railing against homosexuals. Monsignor listened patiently to his arguments, and then replied that these people need our love and prayers as many simply cannot help it. It was such keen understanding of the human condition and his non-judgemental attitude- while still standing up for absolute moral truth with his characteristic eloquence - which endered him to so many of us.*

Monsignor Thompson, please pray for us!

Dave

Dave - March 26, 2017 at 10:16 AM

SU

I also remember Monsignor Thompson from the time he was Pastor at Our Lady of Wisdom next to the University of Nevada Reno . He had a strong conviction and shared his love of God and church in many ways. May he rest in God's eternal peace.

Suzanne - September 12, 2025 at 08:40 AM

FB

“ I am writing because we just found out about Msgr. Ed Thompson's death today and wanted to relate to you a miracle that I believe is due to his intercession on the day of his entry into heaven.

A little background is necessary; we became friends with Father Ed while he was a priest in the Reno Diocese. During our time there, he became our spiritual director and a friend of the family. Father was instrumental in saving our marriage and my husband's soul. He was also the one who encouraged our move to Florida in 1988.

In 1987, Father was gifted by the parish (Our Lady of Wisdom) with a pilgrimage to Medjugorje and Italy, but as was like him, he converted it into a parish pilgrimage in which our young son and I joined. One of the places of pilgrimage was to Lourdes. Our son, Mark, was a lad of 11 years at the time and Msgr. used him as his altar boy at every Mass during this pilgrimage... It left a permanent impression on our son. We have a VHS tape recording which we treasure! I tell you this, because now, our son is married and this past Sept. 8, 2015 had a second daughter who, in the first 5 months of her life, had 7 transfusions because her body was not producing red blood cells or they were being destroyed after each transfusion (the doctors didn't know what was causing this!). The same day that Father Ed died, Our Lady of Lourdes feast day, I was prompted in my heart to send Mark water that we had brought back with us from Lourdes. I had also gotten a mailing from Marion Missionary and Mass card for Our Lady of Lourdes for healing! So, I packed up a bottle of her water and the Mass card and sent it on Feb. 11th... they received it on Feb. 13th. We got the news on Feb. 22 that, mysteriously, her hemoglobin blood count was within normal range and it has been that way ever since! She has not had any more transfusions; we are so grateful!

When I heard today of Father's death, and the date he passed, I immediately connected it to Mark and their relationship while Father was in Reno; Father's caring for our then young son as well as his spiritual guidance to us at a time when we were very much in need.

I believe firmly, that dear Father E.T. had a hand in all of this! Some may say it is only coincidence, but I believe in "God-incidents" and Mary's assistance!

I have spent time on St. Mary Magdalen website, watching the vigil, the funeral and listening to the outpouring of love from those in the parish who knew him best. We are so glad he found a home and a wonderful parish! Our love and prayers for Father E.T have continued all these years, even though we lost touch once we moved to Tampa, Florida.

Our deep sympathy for your loss and happiness for Father who is now with his God. Fred & Faye Baryol, 4046 Shoreside Cir., Tampa, FL 33624. (813 361-6480)

Faye and Fred Baryol - March 19, 2016 at 04:40 PM

JG

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Joseph Grigg - March 07, 2016 at 10:59 AM

MC

“ *Father Ed described himself as "Easy Ed" in the confessional. It was absolutely true. I don't know what he told other people, but I always received the same penance: "Say one good Hail Mary. It is a powerful prayer. One was enough to bring Jesus down from Heaven." Father Ed was doing the Year of Mercy before the Year of Mercy was cool.*

I will endeavor to say one GOOD Hail Mary a day until Easter for Father Ed, for the good of his soul, for the legacy of love he leaves behind and for strength for Father Charlie.

GOD BLESS YOU, Father Ed!!!



Michael Carlock - February 18, 2016 at 01:10 PM

CP

“ *The men from CROC - Christ Renews Our Community - will miss you a great deal !!!*

Confession will not be the same :-)

- I love you and will miss you!!!

God Speed Monsignor Edward J. Thompson

~ Christopher Perez

Christopher Perez - February 17, 2016 at 01:32 PM

RF

“ I will miss him saying thank you for making me a priest. Father, it was you we should have been thanking. From the very young to the young at heart. You spread the word of God with such love, respect, and reverence. And yes Father, I have accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior. Love you and miss you

Renee Fricker - February 15, 2016 at 01:27 AM

LD

“ Monsignor Ed was so nice and genuine. He was absolutely amazing at my father's service and we could not have asked for anyone better. You will be missed and the Phillies now have an Angel in heaven...

The DiPaolo family

Louis DiPaolo - February 13, 2016 at 07:50 AM

DH

“ 1 file added to the album Monsignor Edward J. Thompson



DeGusipe Funeral Home - February 13, 2016 at 06:06 AM