



## Monsignor Valentine Joseph Sheedy

July 23, 1927 - July 14, 2018

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Monsignor Valentine Sheedy.

He was born on January 23, 1927 in Feakle, County Clare, Ireland to Jeremiah and Lillian (McGrath) Sheedy. He was the third child, second son, in a family that eventually had six sons and three daughters. As a young man, he was known for his love of sports. He was a star athlete in sprinting, hurling and rugby, but always felt a calling for something more in his life. Near the end of his boarding school years, one of his teachers, a priest from the Congregation of the Holy Ghost Fathers, encouraged him to consider the priesthood. He studied at University College in Dublin and received his bachelor degrees in English and Philosophy from the Holy Ghost Seminary in Kimmage Manor, Dublin.

Monsignor Sheedy was ordained on July 3, 1955. Shortly after, he was sent to the Owerri Diocese in Eastern Nigeria (at that time called Biafra) to teach. He remained in the country for 12 years until civil war forced him and other missionaries to leave. Monsignor Sheedy arrived in the Diocese of St. Augustine in 1967 and was incardinated into the Diocese of Orlando on February 16, 1973. He remembered those times fondly saying in a recent interview, "There were so many hard-working priests. The priests in Orlando are second to none in their industry. Their commitment and their witness was great."

Monsignor Sheedy served at four parishes – as assistant pastor at St. Joseph Parish in Palm Bay and Blessed Trinity Parish in Orlando, and as pastor at Ascension Parish in Melbourne, and Resurrection Parish in Lakeland. He was responsible for building and expanding schools and parishes at both Ascension and Resurrection.

Monsignor Sheedy also served as Vicar Forane of the Southern Deanery of the Diocese of Orlando; as a member of the College of Consultors; a board member of Melbourne Central Catholic High School; and oversaw the establishment of the RENEW program in the Diocese of Orlando.

After retirement in 1998, he assisted at St. Brendan Parish, Ormond Beach and Church of the Epiphany in Port Orange. “God has blessed the Diocese of Orlando,” shared Sheedy in 2017. “I thank God for my vocation. The cross is a part of life for everybody. I can assure it’s also part of the priestly life, but the rewards are infinite.”

Monsignor Sheedy died in Chicago on Saturday, July 14. He is survived by his brothers, Declan M. Sheedy, and sister-in-law, Susan Sheedy, Kieran Sheedy, sister-in-law, Terry, Dermot Sheedy, sister-in-law, Marie; nephew, Dermot, and his wife, Cathy, and their children.

#### Funeral Arrangements:

Wake: Monday, July 23, 2018, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Vigil at 5:30 p.m.), at Church of the Epiphany, 201 Lafayette Street, Port Orange

Funeral Mass: Tuesday, July 24, 2018, 11:00 a.m., 201 Lafayette Street, Port Orange

Interment: Tuesday, July 24, 2018, 3:30 p.m., Priests Cemetery of San Pedro  
Spiritual Development Center, 2400 Dike Road, Winter Park

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.

[www.orlandodiocese.org](http://www.orlandodiocese.org)

# Previous Events

## Wake

JUL 23. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Church of the Epiphany  
201 Lafayette Street  
Port Orange, FL 32127

## Vigil Service

JUL 23. 5:30 PM (ET)

Church of the Epiphany  
201 Lafayette Street  
Port Orange, FL 32127

## Funeral Mass

JUL 24. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Epiphany  
201 Lafayette Street  
Port Orange, FL 32127

## Interment

JUL 24. 3:30 PM.

Priests Cemetery of San Pedro Spiritual Development Center  
2400 Dike Road  
Winter Park, FL

# Tribute Wall

KT

“ My mother Joan Ludwig taught school and worked in the church office at Assesion Catholic for years. She dearly loved Father Sheedy. I am sure they will be having a great time together in Heaven. I am very sad to hear of his passing. I am praying for him and his family. Kitty Thurston, Joan’s daughter.

kitty thurston - August 01, 2018 at 06:43 PM



“ Heaven's Comfort was purchased for the family of Monsignor Valentine Joseph Sheedy.



July 20, 2018 at 02:25 PM

BM

“ Father Sheedy will always be remembered by countless people here in Eau Gallie. He was a kind and caring man constantly doing the work of the Lord. He always had a smile for everyone. Many years ago he celebrated Mass here in my home. I will always treasure those pictures. Two weeks ago I sent him a card to say hello, how are you. We have kept in touch over the years and I will miss him and his caring notes/ Eternal rest dear Fr. Val. You will always remain in our prayers and in our hearts.

Barbara Moran  
Melbourne Fl.

Barbara Moran - July 19, 2018 at 11:40 AM

JH

“ Our thoughts & prayers are with all of Fr. Val's family & friends at this sad time of loss. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.  
*Requiescat In Pace*

---

**John Howley** - July 18, 2018 at 09:32 PM

CC

“ *Father Sheedy officiated our wedding on 7/16/1983...we just celebrated our 35th wedding anniversary so his memory is fresh in our minds. Great guy... kind, smart, and funny.....he will always be the quintessential Irish priest of our lives....thank you Father for your guidance to a couple of twenty four year olds as we started our new lives together.*

*We printed his obituary and will file it with our wedding album this evening so as to occasionally refresh our memories and the blessings he bestowed on us.*

*Carl & Aileen Carothers*

---

**carl carothers** - July 18, 2018 at 01:55 PM

MW

“ *Father Sheedy was incredibly kind to our entire family when we moved to Melbourne in 1974. I was in 2nd grade. He was the best. He will be so missed. I am forever grateful that God put him our lives when we needed him. Thinking of his family and sending prayers. RIP Fr. Sheedy*



---

**Martha White** - July 18, 2018 at 11:15 AM