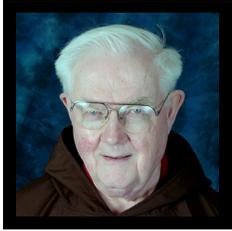


Neerology

Joseph Maloney
1931-2019



Joseph George Maloney was born January 29, 1931 in Detroit MI. His father, John Maloney, was a physician married to Virginia George. The couple also had an older son (Patrick) and a younger son (James). Patrick joined the Capuchin-Franciscan Order headquartered in Detroit; James married a woman named Dorothy King and eventually made their home in Clarkston MI. In those days when someone joined the Capuchin Order, he was required to change his baptismal name to the name of some other saint.

The idea was to symbolize one's break with the past in order to begin a new life as a friar. Patrick changed his name to "Malcolm."

Joe Maloney attended St. Agnes Grade School and Catholic Central High School, both in Detroit. He also had one year of college at Michigan State University in East Lansing MI. When his brother Patrick joined the Capuchin Order in Detroit, Joe would visit him at the order's well-known friary (St. Bonaventure) on Detroit's East Side. The more he got to know the friars and their work of feeding poor and hungry people at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, the more Joe thought and prayed about joining them.

Finally he applied for admission and was accepted as a novice. When it came to choosing a new first name, Joe chose "Cormac" as his new name in honor of his Irish heritage. He completed the one-year program and then was transferred to the province's college seminary program in Huntington IN. (1952-55). After completing his degree he moved on to the priestly studies program at St. Anthony Seminary in Marathon WI. He and his seven other classmates were ordained on Sept. 18, 1958.

Joe and his classmates were the given a full year of priestly studies and ministry experience in Milwaukee WI under the supervision of older priests, which strengthened their knowledge and self-confidence. Then, in 1960, Joe was assigned as a teacher at St. Francis Brothers School in Mt. Calvary WI. Six years later he was asked to serve as teacher and director of the brothers' formation program at St. Mary Seminary in Crown Point IN. In 1971 Joe returned to Michigan, serving as chaplain to hospitals and convalescent homes in the Warren-Center Line Vicariate for seven years. He also served as chaplain at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit (1984-1990). Finally, from 1991-93, Joe joined two other friars to begin an evangelization ministry in Racine WI. As his health began to decline, he returned to St. Bonaventure's in Detroit from 1993 until his death on Feb. 14, 2019.

I was one of Joe Maloney's classmates, and I consider it a great privilege to have known him and lived with him in several places. What everyone remembers about Joe is his wonderful sense of humor and his spontaneous laughter. But there was also a deeper side to him. One of his great passions was reading. He kept up with world as well as church events, even when he was confined to bed much of the time. He was a prayerful man as well as a life-long learner. When I would visit at St. Bonaventure's in Detroit, I always made it a point to visit with Joe. My

friends in Racine would ask about him and recall his humorous comments. He had a great deal of compassion for the sick, and I believe his favorite ministries were visiting sick and homebound people. I think it's wonderfully significant that Joe died on Valentine's Day. He loved God, his family, his fellow Capuchins, and those who were sick or hurting in any way. As one of his last requests he wrote this: "It is usually the custom to have family pictures placed on a bulletin board at a wake or funeral service. I have no personal family pictures. Instead I have pictures of poverty and suffering on my bookcase and desk. I would like them displayed with the caption 'When one suffers, we all suffer.'"

May our brother and friend, Joe Maloney, rest in the peace and love of God, and in our memories.

~ Martin Pable