



## Msgr. John Squiller

January 28, 1930 - May 1, 2020

On Friday, May 1, in his ninety-first year of life and sixty-fifth year of priestly ministry, Monsignor John Squiller of Stamford passed into the arms of the Lord he served so faithfully. He was born on January 28, 1930 in Bairdford, PA, the son of John and Stella Squiller.

He attended West Deer Twp. High School where he played varsity football. He later attended Notre Dame University, graduating in 1952 with a BA degree in Classics and Philosophy. Answering the call of the Lord to priestly service, he enrolled in St. Josaphat Seminary and the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, graduating with a Licentiate in Sacred Theology in 1956.

On June 14, 1956 he was ordained to the holy priesthood by Bishop Ambrose Senyshyn OSBM, at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. From that day until his last he devoted his life to the service of God's people in the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford serving parishes in Ansonia CT, Brooklyn NY, Auburn NY, Spring Valley NY, Rochester NY, Yonkers NY, Stamford CT, Woonsocket RI and Fall River RI. For five years he was the director of Holy Spirit Eparchial Cemetery in Hamptonburg NY.

Msgr. John was a born teacher. He liked nothing better than teaching others about the love that God has for them. At four different times totaling twenty

years he was on the staff of St. Basil Prep School in Stamford serving as religion instructor and track & field coach. He also served as rector of St. Basil College Seminary on two occasions for a total of eight years. For six years he was a religion instructor at the Mother of God Academy in Stamford.

Msgr. John was the recipient of two Papal honors during his long life of priestly service: Chaplain of His Holiness conferred by Pope Paul VI in 1978 and Prelate of Honor of His Holiness conferred by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1993.

In his final years Msgr. John resided at St. Basil Seminary in Stamford, where he devoted his days to prayer and teaching. He could be found every afternoon in the seminary chapel faithfully making a Ho-ly Hour, a life-long devotion of his.

He is survived by two sisters, Delores (Kapustik) and Johanna, brother-in-law John Grottenthaler, sister-in-law Jean and numerous loving nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by two brothers, Milton and Thomas and brother-in-law Steven Kapustik.

At the end of a life of dedication to God and service to His people, the words of Jesus can truly be addressed today to Msgr. John: "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Come, share in your master's joy." Mt. 25:23

Due to current CDC Federal guidelines in keeping with public safety standards, there will be no visitation at the funeral home. A Funeral Divine Liturgy will be held on Thursday, May 7 at 10:00 am at Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, 141 Sarah Wells Trail, in Campbell Hall NY 10916.

In memory of Msgr. John, donations can be made to: St. Basil Seminary, 195 Glenbrook Road in Stamford, CT 06902 or offerings for Divine Liturgies for the

repose of his soul.

The family has entrusted the funeral arrangements to Bosak Funeral Home, 453 Shippan Avenue, in Stamford, CT. To leave a condolence message for the family you may visit the guestbook at [www.bosakfuneralhome.com](http://www.bosakfuneralhome.com) or on [Facebook.com/bosakfuneralhome](https://www.facebook.com/bosakfuneralhome).

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY 7. 10:00 AM (ET)

Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery  
141 Sarah Wells Trail  
Campbell Hall, NY 10916

# Tribute Wall

RM

“ *In a moment of nostalgia, I googled Monsignor Squiller and was saddened to hear of his passing. Reflecting on my time as a student of his at St. Basil's, Monsignor Squiller's impact on my own spiritual journey lasted well beyond my time in his class and I imagine I'm not alone in sharing that reflection. I remember him fondly as a compassionate, grounded and gentile teacher and extend my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.*

*John McCarthy, '86*

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**Rev John McCarthy** - June 23, 2020 at 01:17 PM

RG

“ *How fortunate I was to not only have been a student in his class in my youth but also to work with him years later when I was a member of the St. Basil Prep faculty and administration; I was blessed even more that my two sons had him as a teacher—and they remember him so very fondly to this very day. Clearly, no one loved the Prep, its alums, and its sports programs more than Monsignor Squiller. Last December, I had occasion to meet and sit with him in the College dining room where for over an hour listen to him reminisce about his life, the Prep, and all the alums he loved so dearly. He was joyous and uplifting and in good cheer. May he rest in peace and in the loving memories of all those whose lives he so touched as a teacher, mentor, coach, pastor, and priest.*

*Russ Gaudio '60*

*Christopher Gaudio '86*

*Matthew Gaudio '89*

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**Russ Gaudio** - May 13, 2020 at 07:45 AM

JT

“ Dearest Msgr., as one of your many students you will be missed. Your greatest impact on me was your genuineness. You loved each of us as a child of God, though I did not get it at the time. I loved hearing of your football days, and in between your teaching you would crack jokes. You had a great sense of humor! I will hold you in my prayers!! Eternal Rest grant unto him O Lord and let your perpetual light shine upon him. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, Rest In Peace. Amen

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**Joseph Tortora** - May 09, 2020 at 11:35 AM

MR

“ To the Squiller family. So sorry to hear of Monsignor's passing. He was our Faithful Friar 4th Degree K of C Stamford, CT. Rest In Peace Brother John. Michael J. Raduazzo P.F.N. #109 “GO IRISH”

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**Michael J. Raduazzo** - May 08, 2020 at 09:21 AM

JR

“ I am fortunate to have had a rather unique experience in knowing Msgr. Squiller as his student at St. Basil's during the 1960's and as his colleague on staff of St. Basil's Prep and College in subsequent years for more than two decades. His devotion to the Catholic Church and the education of many who would become prominent by way of these institutions is consistent and deep. Nevertheless, Msgr. did not view the position of prominence as significant in any form. He treated all in the same straight-forward and honest manner -- devoted to each particular situation and individual, regardless of status, with concern for life's ultimate destination to rest peacefully as a member of the eternal kingdom of God -- both for himself and for all others. His focus on detail may have been seen as pedantic to some. However, it was genuine, sincere, rational, human, deep and unwavering. We last met last September during the SingCon Convention held at the seminary. Pop John still had it. Still involved in critiquing current Ukrainian Catholic catechetical publications, quoting athletic statistics of his former students, offering advice, and building legacy. He will be missed, never replaced, never forgotten. Vichnaya Pam'yat! Khristos Voskres!  
Joseph Roll

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Joseph Roll - May 07, 2020 at 03:41 PM

MB

“ just over a year and a half ago i wrote to Fr. Squiller just to let him know that i still kept the original textbook he used for the classes he taught us t St. Basil's Prep - Fr. Connell's "Outlines In Moral Theology" with all of its underlinings and margin notes made back then (1964/65) - a book as organized and orderly as Fr. John himself . . i want to say this about Fr. John: he was definitely one of the good guys . . he was never a manipulator nor a climber jockeying for power positions . . and he never stabbed anyone in the back to get ahead which stood him above and apart from so many . . he taught "moral theology" and was what he taught . . he always advised to take "the pars tutior" when it came to making moral decisions, still good advice today all these decades later . . Fr. John is now singing "Khrystos Voskrese" in the eternal Kingdom . .and as we still pay for his soul, i ask him to remember and pray for "me" also . . (michael g. batcho)

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**michael g. batcho** - May 06, 2020 at 01:21 PM

AB

“ Monsignor would always say to his students, "don't say it's another boring day at St.Basil's. You should say today is going to be a great day." He always taught the Rosary and prayed the Rosary in the hall while he had a minute to spare. He occupied every minute of his day with his duties as a priest, teacher, pastor, and friend. The "ultimate goal," he taught his students, is Heaven. God Bless you Monsignor and Thank You for everything.

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**Anthony Buzzeo** - May 05, 2020 at 09:02 PM

NC

“ *May Monsignor John be received into the bosom of Abraham; May he dwell among the Saints; and may his memory be eternal.*  
*Хрестом Божествен!*



Nancy B. Clafin - May 05, 2020 at 09:04 AM

MM

“ *A fabulous human being, holy priest and wonderful church administrator - Vichnaya Pamyat Christine Dziuba and Tom and Mary Myers St Josaphat's Rochester, NY*

Mary Myers - May 05, 2020 at 12:18 AM

LA

“ *Sincerest condolences on the passing of Msgr Squiller. I cherish my childhood memories from his early days guiding the parishioners at Saint Peter and Saint Paul Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Church in Ansonia, CT. His kind and thoughtful ways had a lasting impact on our values, ethics and faith - especially for the youngsters attending the then newly opened parochial school. ❤️ 🙏*

Lydia Stuban Antoniou - May 04, 2020 at 09:42 PM

MP

“ *Deepest Condolences on Msgr. Squiller's passing. Thoughts and prayers for all. I was a student of his at St. Basil's. He was a great teacher, mentor and individual. I was fortunate to be a student of his. May God Bless him and all.*

Michael Portanova - May 04, 2020 at 08:46 PM

AU

*Msgr. Squiller may you rest in peace. When I was Grand Knight at the Knights of Columbus, Counsel 41 some 10 yrs ago, you were our Chaplain. One of our best memories was you proof reading our newsletter and you used a red pen to find and correct our errors. You were an asset to our organization and we will miss you. God Bless you.*

Anthony Uva - May 05, 2020 at 06:45 PM

NF

*God Bless Msgr Squiller. May You Rest In Peace.* 🌹

Nancy Feight - May 05, 2020 at 09:41 PM

TP

*Magr. John Squiller was truly a holy and wonderful man. We became friends as sophomores at Notre Dame. We share a birthday, January 28, and we have been telephoning each other on our birthday for years. From the beginning of our friendship I was impressed with John's devotion to the Lord and the Blessed Mother. During our annual phone calls he was so inspiring and encouraging. There is a special place in eternity for a gifted man like Msgr. John.*

Thomas J. Blakely

Thomas J. Blakely PhD - May 06, 2020 at 08:22 AM

LH

*The picture is exactly how I remember "Father Squiller" from his days at St. Peter and St. Paul in Ansonia, CT, teaching us catechism and blessing our home at Easter. Everyone loved him. Vichnaya pamyat!*

Laura Horbal - May 08, 2020 at 09:34 AM

JD

*Blessings to our favorite track coach & Latin teacher at St Basil's Seminary in 1960's for Vichnaya Pamyat = Eternal Memory. I am so glad that I visited Monsignor Squiller in 2019 at St Basil's & shared a prayer together. He was truly dedicated to priesthood & inspired his students to care for their body & soul > mens sana in corpore sano = a sound mind in a sound body.*

JAROSLAW PiKOLYCKY,DDS  
La Jolla , California

JAROSLAW PiKOLYCKY DDS - May 17, 2020 at 01:03 AM