



Rev. Fr. Henry John Januszkiewicz

February 4, 1937 - January 5, 2019

Reverend Henry J. Januszkiewicz, 81, of Fort Myers, FL passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 5, 2019 at Joanne's House at Hope Hospice in Bonita Springs. He was born February 4, 1937 a son of the late Bronislaw and Stanislawa (Wypasek) Januszkiewicz. A native of Newark, New Jersey he was ordained May 26, 1962 at St. Matthews Cathedral in Washington, DC after studying for the priesthood at St. Bonaventure University and Christ the King Seminary from 1956 – 1962 in Olean, NY. Prior to this, he had studied at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ. While pursuing his studies for the priesthood, he also received his Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy and Theology.

Fr. Henry celebrated his first Mass on May 27, 1962 at St. Stanislaus Parish in Newark, NJ. For the first 6 years of his priesthood, he served as Parochial Vicar at St. Thomas Moore in SE Washington, DC from 1962-1968. He was then assigned to The Children's Center for Delinquent and Dysfunctional Children in Laurel, MD, St. Patrick's Church in NW Washington, DC, St. Mary's Church in Landover, MD and Annunciation Catholic Church in NW Washington, DC before being assigned as Pastor to Ascension Catholic Church in Bowie, MD. As Pastor, he raised 2.3 million dollars to build a new church that included a separate chapel, Our Lady of Czestochowa. His church was one of the first parishes to institute 24-hour perpetual adoration. Fr. Henry served as Pastor there from 1978-1996.

Fr. Henry established a personal relationship with Pope John Paul II. He traveled to Rome, Italy several times during Pope John Paul II's Papacy, each visit being special, unique and personal with the Pope. At the Vatican, Fr. Henry concelebrated morning Mass with Pope John Paul II in his private chapel before eating breakfast afterward made by John Paul's private nuns.

After health problems arose in 1994 he retired from the Archdiocese of Washington and moved to SW Florida. He assisted at St. Raphael's Catholic Church in Lehigh Acres, FL from 1996-2006 as well as St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in Bonita Springs, FL from 1996-2015. From 2015 until the time of his passing, Fr. Henry had been assisting at Church of the Resurrection of Our Lord in Fort Myers, FL.

He is survived by his two brothers, Tadeusz Januszkiewicz and Casimir Januszkiewicz; his nieces and nephews, Ellen Januszkiewicz, whom he lived with for 40 years and her daughters, Katrina and Julia and their golden retriever, Twinkie; Thaddeus (Angela) Januszkiewicz and their daughters, Tara, Gina, Brianna and Kaitlyn; Frederick Januszkiewicz and his children, Nicholas and Tiffany; Thaddeua Marie (Ronald) Nowak and their sons, Michael and Kevin; ReINETTE Januszkiewicz; Barbara (Lou) Halasz; Mark Sawruk; Matthew Sawruk; Michelle Sawruk; Donna Tafro; and Stella Tafro. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Frederick Januszkiewicz; and sisters, Gladys Tafro and Helen Sawruk.

Father Henry's remains will lie in state at the Church of the Resurrection of Our Lord, 8121 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33919 on Thursday, January 10, 2019 from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 A.M. with Monsignor Edward McNamara, officiating.

Additional services will be held at Ascension Catholic Church in Bowie, MD.

He will be laid to rest beside his mother at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Silver Spring, MD.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are suggested to a college fund to benefit his great-nieces, Katrina and Julia whom he adored, C/O Ellen Januszkiewicz to funeral home address.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Gate of Heaven Cemetery

Silver Spring, MD

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 10. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Resurrection of Our Lord
8121 Cypress Lake Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33919

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Resurrection of Our Lord
8121 Cypress Lake Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33919

Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. Fr. Henry John Januszkiewicz*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *I was a alter server at Ascension Catholic church in Bowie MD. Father hennery was a great pastor who treated me as a son. I have nothing but fond memories of mass and the crab feast he was a great man and I miss him like y own father.*

adam - April 29, 2020 at 04:32 PM



“ *Father Henry was such a wonderful Priest. We looked forward to attending Mass each Sunday when he celebrated Mass.*



Ken & Stephanie - June 19, 2019 at 03:30 PM



“ *I was so sad to see that Fr. Henry had died. He was so instrumental in my life and my daughters'. They were the first girl altar servers at ages 4&5 at our parish, while I was a Eucharist Minister. We served Mass together all the time which brought us so much closer. Fr. Henry was so loving, caring and deeply religious brining so many back to the Church. We were fortunate to have him as our Pastor at Ascension. He is now next to God and I know is watching over all of us in Heaven.*

Cathy Gosweiler - March 06, 2019 at 11:19 AM

JH

I grew up in Annunciation Parish. Fr. Henry was the only priest with a line of children outside his confessional box. He was honest, transparent, genuine and sincere. He taught me catechism from my first Communion, Confession up to my Confirmation in 6th grade. He gave me a tiny bouquet of miniature pink roses that I hung upside down to dry and kept for years. I just found out he died. I contacted him years ago when I had moved to Los Angeles. His memory may have been taxed, but his Spirit was full of the joy the Lord had given him. I know he is among the cloud of witnesses cheering on all of us whose lives he touched. And I am so grateful to his family for keeping a celibate man whole in the Lord's eyes.

Jennifer Howland - July 29, 2024 at 11:28 AM

ES

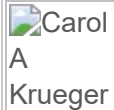
“*Sorry to hear of Father Henry's passing. He was a kind person and knowledgeable priest.*

Eileen Sateriale - January 26, 2019 at 12:43 PM

EO

“*Fr Henry - was a funny - intelligent - faith filled Priest. He truly was one of my most favorite people! Told him once if I ever got another pet I'd name it after him...and I will... if I do!! Special place in my heart for him! God blessed us with his vocation!!!*


Ellen O'Brien - January 16, 2019 at 04:38 PM

 Carol
A
Krueger

“ *My dear friend of many years who taught me how to be a good Catholic. He even got me to be a Eucharist Minister. His smile and his happiness brought joy to everyone at Ascension Catholic Church in Bowie, MD. He will always hold a special spot in my heart and will be missed deeply. God created a great man and a outstanding Pastor. Rest in peace with all my love. P/S. he was always teaching me how to say his last name and I almost got it down.*



Carol A Krueger - January 15, 2019 at 11:11 PM

 Pamela
Grothaus

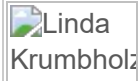
“ *My heartfelt condolences to Ellen, Katrina, Julia and everyone who was close to Father Henry during this difficult time. He had such an impact on everyone he met! I am grateful and blessed to have known him, even if only for a few short years. In 2014, I offered to help Father write his memoirs about Saint Pope John Paul II. For a variety of reasons, we never got very deep into the project. However, Father entrusted me with two large canvas bags of photos and newspaper clippings, which I scanned on my computer before returning to him. I've posted a number of the photos on this site. I envision Father Henry and JP II together now, a beautiful reunion of two faithful friends.*

Pamela Grothaus - January 13, 2019 at 10:29 AM



“ *Fr. Henry was very special to our family! Both my children were Altar Servers and loved assisting him at St. Raphael's parish. He also married my son and his wife! May God grant him rest and peace!
Love and prayers from the Tice family!!
Sharon Tice*

Sharon Tice - January 10, 2019 at 06:22 PM



“ *Linda Krumbholz lit a candle in memory of
Rev. Fr. Henry John Januszkiewicz*



Linda Krumbholz - January 07, 2019 at 08:27 PM



Ellen- I am so sorry for your tremendous family loss. Altho, I got to know FR HENRY for such a short time he was a true Christian inspiration. I truly believe the Lord brought him into my life for a positive reason. His gentleness, well being, grace, reverence and ora brought such happiness to my heart. I only wished knowing him could've been much longer. He blessed me before my trip to UTAH and that, I'll never forget. My thoughts are with you and the family. My life has been blessed in meeting him. I miss you FATHER, rest & I look forward to seeing and hearing a HOMILY one day from you! GOD BLESS

Linda Krumbholz - January 09, 2019 at 08:33 AM



I am so glad I got to make you Oatmeal cookies. I'll forever be known as Linda, Oatmeal Cooke Linda! ,Luv You!

Linda Krumbholz - January 09, 2019 at 08:43 AM

LJ

“ I’m so sad to hear of the passing of Father Henry. He was my childhood priest. He showed me how a true Christian should be. He was truly one of a kind. My favorite childhood memory was he would have the entire church sing happy birthday to me every year! It made it so special for me. He was there for me during the difficult teenage years. He even gave my then boyfriend, now husband a bit of a hard time at first!! I flew him up so he could marry us and I’m so glad I did. He has my reception saranade me one more time for all the birthdays he missed. He called me his little baby. Thank you Father Henry for making my relationship with God stronger. Ellen- I am so very sorry for your tremendous loss. You and your girls and your family are in my prayers. The world is a less bright without him in it. Love you Father Henry. Please watch over me and my family.

Laura Jorgensen - January 07, 2019 at 08:17 PM

KW

As a new priest, he was called Fr. Jan in our parish in SE DC. He officiated at my brother's wedding and I thought he was really cool as an elementary student. When I saw him many years later in Bowie I called him Fr. Jan and he said I know you are from many years ago.....he said he remembered my eyes. My brother then lived in Bowie, too, but was in another parish. So sorry to hear about his death. My brothers wife died 2 weeks before he did close to 53 years after he married them. Kathie Kurek Ward

Kathie Ward - December 20, 2019 at 04:04 PM