



Ralph Joseph Goman

December 1, 1937 - May 11, 2023

Goman, Fr. Ralph J. died on May 11, 2023 at his residence in Hopkins at the age of 85. He grew up in south Minneapolis and graduated from De La Salle High and Nazareth Hall minor seminary. He then entered the St. Paul Seminary and was ordained in the class of 1964. He was assigned as an associated pastor at Incarnation parish, chaplain at St. Mary's hospital, spiritual director at St. John Vianney Seminary, pastor at Assumption parish, Richfield, and then St. John the Evangelist parish in Hopkins. He retired to the Glenn in Hopkins where he continued his ministry in assisting other parishes and at the Glenn. Ralph was born with a rare clotting/bleeding disorder (Factor V Deficiency) that limited his activities throughout his life. Since 1999 Ralph had been receiving a special plasma twice a month at the University of Minnesota hospital, Infusion Center, which prolonged his life. Ralph was preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Alma, his brother David and his sister-in-law, Betz. He is survived by his nephew D.J. Goman, his wife Anita and their two children. He is also survived by many cousins, relatives, and close friends. Fr. Goman loved being a priest and it showed in his ministry. He loved his assignments, his fellow priests, friends and especially all those he served. If we are to ever meet a living saint in our life time, Fr. Goman was it. Mass of Christian burial will be on Thursday May 25, at St Gabriel's, formally St. John's the Evangelist, 6 Interlachen Road, Hopkins at 10:00am with visitation beginning at 9:00am. Interment Assumption Cemetery, Richfield. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred to DeLaSalle high school, or Saint

Gabriel's church. Washburn-McReavy.com Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Cemetery Details

Assumption Cemetery (Richfield)

305 East 77th Street
Richfield, MN 55423

Tribute Wall

MJ

“ *Ralph and I were childhood friends on East 24th Street in Minneapolis. I would visit him when he was ill and we would play games. I carry a lifelong eyebrow scar from a Rusty bicycle handlebar David threw at me all those years ago. Ralph was a dear friend.*
Marilyn Brestrup

Marilyn Jacobi - May 28, 2025 at 09:14 AM

JU

“ *Father Goman officiated when we were married in 1970. We worked with him at St. Mary's hospital in Minneapolis. God bless his gentle soul.*

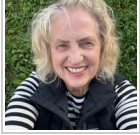
Julie - September 18, 2024 at 08:15 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Renee Kessler - May 25, 2023 at 10:12 AM



“ Fr. Goman was such a wonderful spiritual leader at St. John's church and school, and in particular, my son's life when he screwed up in confirmation class and was asked to leave. Fr. Goman offered him a few alternatives; be referred to another parish confirmation class, be homeschooled by his parents, be tutored by him personally or not be confirmed. My son chose to be tutored personally by Fr. Goman. Years later when writing a college essay he wrote about his time with Fr. Goman exclaiming, "The best thing that ever happened to me was getting kicked out of my confirmation class!" In my mind, this statement basically sums up the impact Fr. Goman had on those blessed to know him! Fr. Goman was a gift to our parish community and will forever hold a place in our hearts and be dearly missed.

Renee Kessler - May 25, 2023 at 10:05 AM

PK

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Pat & Jenny Kelly - May 24, 2023 at 07:35 PM

KF

A special family friend for 35+ years. Thanks for the laughs, caring spirit, and loving support. We'll miss you dearly but have memories to treasure!

Kelly Family - May 24, 2023 at 07:40 PM

SB

“ *What a loss for this world but a wonderful gain for Heaven. I am sure that my Jim and all who had the privilege of knowing you welcomed you home. Such a kind and beautiful man who always had a twinkle in his eye. Ralph, you radiated God's love for everyone and God's sense of humor. Thank you for your kindness and grace. May angels welcome you into God's Kingdom.*
Sue Bitney

Susan Bitney - May 19, 2023 at 08:28 AM

EL

“ *Fr brought me into the Church and convinced me of Gods Love and Mercy. He was the right priest for the job and I know he's Home 😊*

Elijah - May 17, 2023 at 11:10 PM

GM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Gayle F Levi McLouden - May 16, 2023 at 10:53 AM

GM

A wonderful kind and loving priest who will be missed but, welcomed into heaven with open arms from the angels to enjoy everlasting pain free happiness.

Gayle F Levi McLouden - May 20, 2023 at 12:19 PM

PL

I will remember Fr Goman as one who always made others happy. I remember coming up behind him and giving him a hug and a kiss on his bald head. We both laughed!

Peg Lindgren - May 23, 2023 at 03:20 PM

WV

Fr. Goman radiated a joyful spirit consumed with an amazing love of god! His priesthood was manifest with integrity and justice for all. His humor was non stop! His profound theology strengthened Faith. As parishioners, we never knew he only experienced forty-eight hours a week without discomfort. The twinkle in his eye and upbeat reception of every individual he encountered will never be forgotten. He was always receptive to a hilarious tale; he just loved people. A thespian at heart, he utilized as a prop my artistic tam for a Twelve Days of Christmas Skit at the Parish St. Nick's Party. He volunteered for an annual surprise role in the school plays much to the delight of the children and audience. He was a very supportive Editor to Margaret LeSage and myself in writing the 50 year history of St. John the Evangelist. He wore many hats with God gifted energy. Our loss is truly heaven's gain!!!

Virginia Vonhof - May 23, 2023 at 07:28 PM

GM

“ Gayle Levi Mclouden lit a candle in memory of Ralph Joseph Goman



Gayle levi mclouden - May 15, 2023 at 08:04 PM

AH

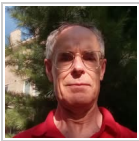
“ Fr Ralph has blessed five generations of our family members! He was truly our Spiritual Father and we will miss him beyond words. So grateful for the many memories of sharing time at the North Shore, family dinners and sing-a-longs, pranks too many to mention and bringing the grandkids to the Glen to go sliding outside his window during Covid! I think all the residents loved that one! Love and miss you ! Life well lived good and faithful servant! Ann and Ed Hagberg and extended Ssiler family!

Ann Hagberg - May 15, 2023 at 12:38 PM

TM

“ My heart is broken to hear of dear Father Goman’s passing. He was such an amazing & faithful leader. Words can not express what an important impact he had on my life & the community of St. John’s Catholic School & Church In Hopkins, MN. I loved having him as a frequent visitor to my Kindergarten classroom & the way the children looked up to him was so precious & magical! He definitely was Christ among us! I will carry so many precious memories in my heart forever! ❤️ I can only imagine the grand celebrations & conversations & laughter happening with his arrival at the pearly gates of heaven with so many of our dear St. John’s friends who have passed before him! ❤️ RIP DEAR FRIEND! Until we meet again!!

Tiffany McCaffrey - May 14, 2023 at 12:48 PM



“ Fr. Ralph was my spiritual director at St. John Vianney Seminary and a couple years beyond that. He had a gentle spirit.



Mike Barrett - May 13, 2023 at 06:01 PM