



Father Peter J Whalen

July 24, 1939 - December 13, 2020

Reverend Father Peter James Whalen, born July 24, 1939, passed away in peace early Sunday morning December 13th, 2020. Leaving our world and becoming one with God on the Lord's day, it is a fitting way to look into the life that is Peter James Whalen. Peter is survived by his beloved wife Barbara Whalen, daughter Christi Canada (Jared), and son Christopher Whalen (Davina). Also survived by his two sisters Joan Whalen and Sue Carlson and her two sons Jason and Aaron Carlson. Peter lived a life larger than himself.

Father Peter enjoyed many pastimes such as fishing, sailing, and BBQ. Whether it was sailing in the Gulf of Mexico or in the lakes of Tennessee, he found peace in God's water creation. He enjoyed teaching his daughter and son how to sail and fish. To enjoy BBQ more fully, Peter and his son trained as Kansas City BBQ judges. They traveled around the South tasting and learning about the amazing art of cooking meat.

Father Peter was a man of the community but most of all he was a servant in God's community. He service the Lord as Priest for over 50 years in many parishes, both Roman Catholic

and Episcopal. For almost 40 years he served in the Diocese of Tennessee. He served as Rector of St. Philip's in Donelson, chair of the Commission on Ministry, and Priest-in-charge at Church of the Redeemer, Shelbyville. He also served at Grace Episcopal Church in Spring Hill, Episcopal Church of Epiphany in Lebanon, and St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, in Fayetteville until shortly before his death. Father Peter touched many lives in numerous ways. He would always find ways to offer help to individuals in need. He also offered guidance and support to individuals during times of stress. He was a man always involved with outreach programs that provided food and shelter to those who were less fortunate. He participated on committees that funded and built playgrounds in parks for children. He was active in the Ecumenical Movement for the Diocese and locally. He was active in the Ministerial Associations in the towns of his parishes. He served on many boards in his community including; Good Samaritan, SCSK - Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen, Cross Shelter, Caregivers Relief Program. He supported Women of Grace and enjoyed the faith sharing at CBS - Community Bible Study. Father Peter loved God, his church, his brother/sister Pastors, & his community. When he concluded his ministry at Church of the Redeemer, Father Peter said: "I am always willing to help out if called upon... God has given me a gift and I'm more than willing to share that as long as there is a need that I can fulfill" Please, as we now lay Peter to rest, come join us to celebrate his life, memory, and mission to help others.

Services are listed below:

April 19 Wednesday at 2:00 pm with Reverend Canon Johnathan (Jody)

Howard & Fr. Micheal Blaess at:

The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 203 E. Lane St.

Shelbyville TN 37160

Visitation will be from 12:30 till 1:30pm.

and

The Diocesan celebration will be April 22 at 10:00 am with Bishop John

Baurschmidt & Reverend Canon

Johnathan (Jody) Howard at:

The Episcopal Church of St. Philip

85 Fairway Dr. Nashville TN 37160

No visitation

Father Peter would be honored with memorials given: Caregiver Relief

Program of Bedford

County, P.O. Box 584, Shelbyville, Tennessee 37162

Good Samaritan Food Bank, 201 E. Highland Ave. Shelbyville TN 37160

SCSK shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen P.O. Box 2250, Shelbyville, TN
37162,

or to your local food bank

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Previous Events

church service

APR **19**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Episcopal Church of The Redeemer
203 E. Lane Street
Shelbyville, TN 37160

Tribute Wall

JS

“ We remember Father Peter Whalen very fondly! Father Pete was very involved with not only his parishioners but also the community of Mission, TX. We remember how he would spend time working alongside us building floats for the annual Texas Citrus Fiesta. He served as president of the Fiesta several times and would be seen driving his golf cart up and down the parade route helping get things in order.

Father Pete was very close to the young people living in our parish. He could be seen walking among them, talking and joking with them when they were taking a break from their lessons. He visited them in their classrooms and spent time answering questions.

He always planned fun activities for his altar servers, especially taking them on trips to Garner State Park in Uvalde, TX. A group of parents would go along to do the cooking but the young people and Father Pete pitched in to help with cleanup. One time, after he was assigned to a parish in Harlingen, TX, he asked if he could bring his altar servers over and drive up with us to Garner. We enjoyed having them join us and when it came time to have a Mass, he immediately obliged. This simple Mass said under the shade of a large oak tree was very meaningful to all present and would not have taken place had God not put Father Pete there at that time.

We have missed Father Pete for a long time and we know that wherever he was assigned over the years after he left the Valley, he brought laughter and abundant blessings to those fortunate enough to have been part of his ministry.

Jerry and Julie Saenz

julie saenz - January 19, 2021 at 03:11 PM

JA

“ *Father Pete was a blessing. We loved him and have missed him. He is with the angels. Blessings to his family. Josie Abbenante, Albuquerque (Our family knew him when he was in Mission, Texas)*



Josie Abbenante - December 20, 2020 at 03:34 PM

RD

“ *Peter was one of the finest priests we have ever known, and he was a good and steady friend for 30 years. He loved his family and he loved the church. He was a faithful friend with a terrific sense of humor. We are diminished by his passing, but the Communion of the Saints is immeasurably enriched. Judy and Robert Dedmon, Manchester, Tennessee.*

Robert Dedmon - December 19, 2020 at 07:54 PM



“ *Thoughts & Prayers was purchased for the family of Father Peter J Whalen.*



December 15, 2020 at 07:02 PM