



***I am the resurrection and the life, said the Lord:
he who believes in me will never die. (John 11:25-26).***

December 1, 2009

Dear Father:

Our brother and fellow priest, Father Joseph F. Ferens, entered eternal life on Monday, November 30, at the age of 85.

Ordained for the Archdiocese of Detroit on June 6, 1953, he served as associate pastor of St. Benedict Parish, Highland Park; St. Stephen Parish, Port Huron; St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Detroit; and Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Oak Park. In addition, Fr. Ferens served as administrator of Our Lady of Victory Mission, Detroit.

Father Ferens was the founding pastor of St. Colette Parish, Livonia, and served there until his retirement in 1994.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Harry Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Rd., Livonia, (734) 591-3700. Visitation will take place at the funeral home on Tuesday, December 1, from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. and on Wednesday, December 2, from noon until 8 p.m., with a Rosary at 7 p.m. The funeral Mass will be held Thursday, December 3, 2009, at St. Colette Parish, 17600 Newburgh Rd., Livonia. His remains will be interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield, at a later date.

Father Ferens is survived by his sisters, Mary Louise (Floyd) Johnson; Ann Margaret "Peaches" (Jim) Kolonowski; and Nancy (Bob) Fensch, and by many nieces and nephews. Condolences may be sent to Michelle Sandell, 57658 Hidden Timber Dr., South Lyon, MI 48178.

Kindly include in the general intercessions of your weekend liturgies a prayer for the repose of the soul of Father Ferens. Keep him in your prayers and include him in the Masses celebrated in accord with our revised Mass Pact.

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron
Archbishop of Detroit