



October 20, 2024

FR. MICHAEL DOYLE, O.S.M. (1938-2024)

What follows are excerpts from Fr. John Fontana's homily for Fr. Doyle's funeral on Friday October 11:

"In this season of autumn, I'm reminded, once again, of the difference between those brown, crumpled, dry leaves that will hang on through the winter, and the ones who let go and fall while beautifully and brightly colored. Fr. Michael Doyle continued to show his autumn colors, by living as fully as his weakening body was able. But he made it very clear to us that he did not want to just hang on, with the help of surgery or chemotherapy. Rather, after 86 full years of life, most of them teaching and preaching about faith and with faith in the resurrection of Jesus and its promise of our own, he was very ready to let go. And so on the Feast of the Guardian Angels, shortly after I was privileged to pray with him and his young family, he did let go... with deep trust that he would fall into the welcoming arms and heart of our loving and compassionate God for eternity. Or, in the language of Celtic spirituality, to which he was quietly attracted, he has crossed the threshold, the thin moment, the transparent curtain between heaven and earth. For us who are on this side of the thin veil, both our grief and our gratitude comes from our experiences with Fr Mike during the many seasons of his life leading to that threshold.

"I have been imagining the older Mike, with whom I have lived in community three times, echoing St. Paul's words to the young Timothy during these last months of his life: "I fought the good fight; I finished the race; I kept the faith and am ready to receive my reward." I don't know what Mike was like when he was young, but we Servites know Mike fought a good fight, even when we didn't know that we were competing. He certainly loved to take the "other" point of view. Some of you weren't used to the Colonel's style of leadership or his being sometimes a bit "crusty" on the outside; once you got to know him, his soft heart helped him to connect with others, his Irish charm helped to get many things done, and his steadiness, instruction and advice were articulated with a confidence and assurance that developed with age and wisdom. When he fought the good fight, he did so as one of the most fair, honest, and just and straightforward persons I've known. His bold and true colors were loud and evident, even as the sharpness of some of them evolved into a more mellow gentleness, care, and so much gratitude toward others who helped him.

"Secondly, he ran and finished the race, a really long one which started in Chicago in 1938 and took him through seasons of his life in Granville and Ladysmith, WI, Benburb, Ireland, Rome, parishes on Chicago's East Side, West Side, and Hillside, Affton, MO and Air Force deployments in Columbus, MS, Albuquerque, Soesterberg, Netherlands, and Aurora, Co, and finally her at Assumption for the last 18 years. He loved being a Servant of Mary and loved being a priest. And as he approached the finish line in the autumn of his life, he led our community, and looked forward to every celebration of Eucharist, especially Monday's Mass, which included the St. Peregrine prayer for healing.

"While fighting the good fight and running the race, he kept the faith and looked forward to his eternal reward. All of Mike's many diplomas, citations, medals, promotions, honors, and accomplishments now take their rightful place behind his ultimate reward, which cannot fit in a frame nor be hung on a wall. I sincerely hope that his reward will truly match the prophetic image we have of heaven as an eternal banquet, without tears, a feast of juicy, rich food and pure choice wines. There are other images of heaven, but faith promises that Mike no longer needs images, as he experiences the real thing, and joins his parents, brother Patrick, his Servite brothers and so many more, in a an eternity of life and love which you and I only get hints and glimpses of on this side of the thin veil.

"Michael Doyle's profession of vows as a Servite and his ordination to priesthood was a response to his call to live for others. Might we consider that his death is also for others, for us. Although death may be the end of success, productivity, or importance among people, its most hope-giving aspect is that it is not the end of our love and fruitfulness, which shows itself in its fullness only after we have died. Let's trust that his life will yield fruit far beyond the limits of his earthly existence, as he now claims his eternal reward."

ASSUMPTION YOUNG ADULTS

AYA is having a wine and cheese party in the Parish Hall following the 5:00pm Mass on Sunday, October 20. Join the AYA team to socialize and spread fellowship. All those in their twenties or thirties—married, single, or coupled—are invited. Contact assumptionaya@gmail.com.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - October 19-20

Pope Francis has selected the theme "Go and invite everyone to the banquet" for our celebration of World Mission Sunday. On World Mission Sunday we pray and reflect on the mission of the Church and our own personal call to mission. We are also invited to support the Pontifical Mission Societies, which foster missionary cooperation on both the spiritual and material levels for the areas of our world most in need of the Good News of God's love. Your donations to the Second Collection this weekend are much appreciated by your brothers and sisters all around the world.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next preparation session for parents (and, if possible, godparents) of infants to be baptized is Monday November 11 from 7:00 to 8:15pm at the Rectory. This session is for new parents and for parents who have never before attended a prep session. Call the parish office to register. It is not necessary to wait for the baby to be born to attend a preparation session. Baptisms are normally take place at 1:15pm on the second and fourth Sundays of the month and during Mass on the first weekend of the month.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction Monday October 21 from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

CHICAGO HELP INITIATIVE FUNDRAISER

The Chicago Help Initiative (CHI) will have its annual Fundraiser on October 24 from 6-9 pm at The Forum. This fundraiser helps CHI raise monies to help the homeless and underserved in our community. To purchase a ticket, please visit chicagohelpinitiative.org.

KNIGHTS NEWS—Tootsie Rolls

The Mother Cabrini River North Council of the Knights of Columbus will have its annual Tootsie Roll Drive to benefit individuals living with intellectual disabilities after all Masses on October 19-20.

HYMNS: #203, #344, #384

WEDDINGS:

JACOB GORDON & ALEXANDRA DOTY JOHN WARD & NATALIA SOLER JONATHAN SANTUCCI & ASHLEY GRANT

THE ITALIAN DINNER

Our 91st annual Italian Dinner will take place Thursday November 7 from 6:00 to 8:30pm at Coco Pazzo, 300 West Hubbard. This year we have a new



venue and a new way for you to show your support for Assumption at the dinner. The delicious menu includes antipasti, insalata, entrees, dolce, and caffe. You will not leave hungry. Wine, beer, and soft drinks are included; cash bar for other drinks. Tickets are \$125 and reservations are required. Parking will be available at 311 and Mart Parc. Call the parish office or go on GiveCentral to make your reservations. Those on our email list who have already responded to the evite, please remember to complete your payment. We are close to capacity.

A BIG DAY FOR BLESSINGS

Saturday October 12, we held our annual blessing of pets from 9:00 to 10:00am. We set a record of 92 pets—6 cats and 86 dogs (no snakes, monkeys, or elephants). A brief news story about the blessing appeared on Channel 2 news Saturday night and Sunday morning. At the 5:00pm Mass that evening we blessed 58 runners participating the next day in the Bank of American Chicago Marathon. Three runners wearing their completion medals attended the 5:00pm Sunday Mass.





PRAY FOR THEM: Annette Russo, Davy Hart, Rosemary Reeves, Frank Cardenas, Erin Gentile, Kathy Escher, Patrick McRae, Rich DiVito, Carolina Gomez, Willie & Mary Priego, Michael Graul

MA	SS INT	TENTIONS ~ WEEK OF OCTOBER 19, 2024
Sat.	19th	5:00 Emil L. Riley, Jr (RIP)
Sun.	20th	7:30 Christopher Handy (RIP)
		9:00 Assumption Parishioners
		10:30 Charles & Marion Joachim (RIP)
		12:15 Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen
		Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris,
		Pfiester & Jenkins Families
		5:00 Tish Casto (RIP)
Mon.	21st	7:00 Fr. Wenceslaus Church (RIP)
		12:10 Helen Dillon (RIP)
Tues.	22nd	7:00 Special Intention
Wed.	23rd	7:00 Cale Clark
Thurs.	24th	7:00 Ray Hufnagel (b'day)
Fri.	25th	7:00 Fr. Michael Doyle, O.S.M. (RIP)

Assumption Church

assumption-chgo.org

LOOKING AHEAD: Friday, November 1, is the Feast of All Saints and a holyday of obligation. It is the day that we honor all those who have completed their journey to the Kingdom of Heaven—the people from every time and place. Masses at Assumption will be at 7:00am, 12:10pm, and 6:00pm.

Saturday November 2 is All Souls Day or the Day of the Dead. It is a special day of prayer for those who are, perhaps, still on their journey back to God. At our 7:30 Mass on Saturday morning, we will offer a special remembrance of the members of our congregation who have died the past three years.

TRANSPORTING TURKEYS: Would you be interested in helping a family have a happier Thanksgiving? The Men's Group is hoping to organize a "turkey drop" by which parishioners could bring a frozen turkey or ham to Assumption on Sunday, November 24, where we will have cars ready to deliver the turkeys to Our Lady of the Angels Mission, 3808 West Iowa, approximately six miles from Assumption. We have volunteers to receive the turkeys, but we need drivers in order to initiate the project. Contact mripani@handler.law if you can volunteer to deliver the turkeys after one of the Masses.

THE SERVITE ROSARY: The Servite Secular Order & Knights of Columbus lead the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 11:40am. All are welcome. Rosaries are provided.

VETERANS DAY CARDS: Please stop in the Parish Hall after all Masses on November 2-3 to sign thank you cards to our Veterans. The Veterans Day cards will be handed out at Veterans Hospitals in the area.





Help care for aging Friars who served at Assumption. Remember The Order of Friar Servants of Mary, **USA Province** in your will.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway. Mother Teresa







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Steve Schapiro

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