



*Monsignor  
Gerard  
Francis  
Guzikowski*

*Born March 29, 1918  
Ordained March 19, 1943  
Died November 22, 2006*



Monsignor Gerard F. Guzikowski, age 88 of Manistee, MI, was called home to his Lord early Wednesday morning, Nov. 22, 2006.

He was born on March 29, 1918 in Manistee, MI, son of the late Frank J. and Mary A. (Janowiak) Guzikowski. He attended St. Joseph School class of 1931 and was a communicant of St. Joseph Catholic Church.

He later entered the Grand Rapids St. Joseph Seminary in the fall of 1931 at the age of 13. He finished his priestly training at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, MD.

Monsignor was ordained on March 19, 1943 at St. Andrews Cathedral in Grand Rapids by Bishop Plagens. His first priestly service was in 1943 at St. Thomas and St. Mary's in Grand Rapids as an assistant pastor.

From June of 1944 to Sept. 1946 he served as U.S. Army chaplain, rank of captain, in France, Germany and Austria.

Upon returning to the states, he was appointed as an assistant pastor at S.S. Peter and Paul in Ionia.

Later he was stationed at Sacred Heart Parish in Mount Pleasant for two years. In June of 1950 he was appointed as administrator at St Michael in Brunswick and Mission at Christ the King in Hesperia and subsequently appointed as pastor in July 1956.

In July 1958, he was appointed Spiritual Director and member of the faculty at St. Joseph Seminary in Grand Rapids where he served 11 years.

He was elevated to Monsignor (Domestic Prelate) in June 1967 by Pope Paul VI with the title Right Reverend Monsignor. From March to July 1969, he served St. Vincent de Paul in Shepherd as administrator.

In July of 1969, he was appointed pastor at Guardian Angels Catholic Church and as Diocesan Director of the Society of the Propagation of Faith and the Pontifical Association of the Holy Childhood.

It is worth mentioning that Monsignor's earliest recollection of Guardian Angels Church was as a 4 year old child "helping" his father who was doing work at the rectory.

During his 37 years at Guardian Angels, he always found time to regularly visit the patients at West Shore Medical Center, and because of this ministry, Monsignor was honored on June 26, 2003 when the new surgical waiting area was dedicated "Msgr. G. Guzikowski Waiting Area."

Monsignor is survived by two sisters and one brother-in-law: Kathryn Cichy and Marge and Ed Grabowski, all of Manistee, MI, two brothers and sisters-in-law: Dr. Max and Eileen Guzikowski of Silver Springs, MD, and Frank and Jane Guzikowski of Nashville, TN. Numerous nieces, nephews and cousins also survive him.

He was preceded in death in addition to his parents, by two brothers and a sister-in-law: John and Irene Guzikowski and an infant brother Joseph, two sisters and three brothers-in-law: Jane and Steven Waskerwitz, Mae and Fred Kuhns and Neil Cichy.

Monsignor Gerard F. Guzikowski will be welcomed into his parish at Guardian Angels Catholic Church at 12 Noon on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2006.

Relatives, friends and the members of the St. Mary's Men's Club and Altar Society will pray the Rosary Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 28 at 3 pm.

The St. Joseph Men's Club will pray the Rosary Tuesday evening at 6 pm at Guardian Angels Catholic Church in Manistee.

Evening Prayer will take place at 7 pm on Tuesday at Guardian Angels Catholic Church with Ecumenical Service to follow, with Reverend Russ Garrigus officiating.

Morning Prayers for Monsignor Gerard F. Guzikowski will take place at 9 am on Wednesday morning, Nov. 29, led by Manistee Catholic Central Schools at Guardian Angels Catholic Church. Relatives, friends and members of the St. Joseph Rosary Altar Society will pray the Rosary at 10 am.

There will be a Noontime Prayer led by the Catholic Daughters followed by relatives, friends and members of the Catholic War Veterans, who will pray the Rosary at 3 pm. The Catholic Youth Center will pray the Rosary at 6 pm in the evening.

Evening Prayers from The Order of Christian Funerals will begin at 7 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 29 at Guardian Angels Catholic Church with the Diocese of Gaylord and Bishop Robert Rose officiating.

Morning Prayers for Monsignor Gerard F. Guzikowski will take place at 9 am on Thursday morning, Nov. 30, led by the Holy Family of Guardian Angels at Guardian Angels Catholic Church followed by the Rosary at 10 am, led by the Knights of Columbus Monsignor J.M. Steffes Council #853.

Mass From the Order of Christian Funerals will be celebrated at 11 am at Guardian Angels Catholic Church on Thursday, Nov. 30 with Bishop Patrick Cooney, Bishop Robert Rose, Reverend James Bearss and Reverend William Zwiefka concelebrants. Burial will follow in Mount Carmel Cemetery in Manistee where Graveside Military Services will be conducted by the members of the V.F.W. Ritual Squad.

Memorials have been established in Monsignor's name for the Manistee County Medical Care Facility Walk Through Garden and the Catholic Medical Mission Board. Envelopes will be available at the church on Tuesday morning.

The Herbert Funeral Home of Manistee is in charge of funeral arrangements.

<b>Tuesday, November 28, 2006</b>	<b>Wednesday, November 29, 2006</b>	<b>Thursday, November 30, 2006</b>
<b>Noon</b> - Welcoming of the Monsignor's body into the parish of Guardian Angels	<b>9 am</b> - Morning Prayer (MCCS)	<b>9 am</b> - Morning Prayer (Holy Family of Guardian Angels)
<b>3 pm</b> - Rosary (Joyful Mysteries) (St. Mary's Men's & Ladies Club)	<b>10 am</b> - Rosary (Luminous Mysteries) (Rosary Society)	<b>10 am</b> - Rosary (Luminous Mysteries) (Knights of Columbus)
<b>6 pm</b> - Rosary (Sorrowful Mysteries) (St. Joseph Men's Club)	<b>Noontime Prayer</b> (Catholic Daughters)	<b>11 am</b> - Funeral Mass (Guardian Angels and the Diocese of Gaylord)
<b>7 pm</b> - Evening Prayer (Requiem Vespers) Ecumenical Service with Rev. Russ Garrigus	<b>3 pm</b> - Rosary (Glorious Mysteries) (Catholic War Veterans)	<b>Committal at Mount Carmel Cemetery</b> (Diocese of Gaylord, Guardian Angels, War Veterans)
	<b>6 pm</b> - Rosary (Joyful Mysteries) (Catholic Youth Center)	
	<b>7 pm</b> - Wake Service	

**We join in prayer for the repose of his soul.**

*May the Angels lead you into paradise.  
May the Martyrs come to welcome you and take you  
to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem.*