

Msgr. Howard W. Calkins

SERVED AS PASTOR OF THREE PARISHES, WAS REGIONAL VICAR

Msgr. Howard W. Calkins, who served as pastor of three parishes in the archdiocese and was regional vicar of the South Shore Vicariate in Westchester County for 13 years, died April 14 at Cardinal Egan Residence in the Bronx. He was 76.

Msgr. Calkins was pastor of Sacred Heart parish, Mount Vernon, 1996-2012, and St. Joseph of the Holy Family parish, Harlem, 1982-1995, and was co-pastor of St. Jerome's, Bronx, 1980-1982.

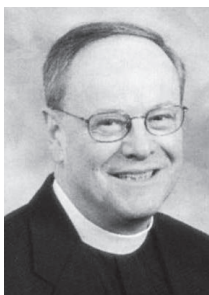
He served as regional vicar of the South Shore Vicariate, 1997-2010.

Cardinal Dolan celebrated Msgr. Calkins' Funeral Mass April 22 at St. Joseph of the Holy Family Church. Father John P. Duffell, pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish in Manhattan, served as homilist.

"He was a faithful and true disciple of Jesus," Father Duffell said. "He brightened up lives wherever he went. He was a person who had an enormous ability to enjoy life and see it as a gift. People caught that from him."

Father Duffell met Msgr. Calkins when the two were studying at St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie, more than 50 years ago.

"In many ways, I miss a lot about him. He was my closest friend and we discussed everything," said Father Duffell, who was



Msgr. Howard W. Calkins

visiting with Msgr. Calkins just minutes before his death.

"He was one of the finest, if not the finest priest, in the Archdiocese of New York."

Msgr. Calkins was a parochial vicar at St. Charles Borromeo, Manhattan, 1996; Corpus Christi, Manhattan, 1976-1980; St. John's, the Bronx, 1971-1976; and St. Matthew's, Hastings-on-Hudson, 1967-1971. Before serving at St.

Charles Borromeo, he took a sabbatical at the North American College in Rome.

On Oct. 17, 1985, a photograph by Chris Sheridan of Msgr. Calkins sitting on a park bench in Harlem talking with a man across the street from St. Joseph of the Holy Family appeared on the cover of Catholic New York. The small park in Harlem was a place where homeless people gathered.

"They've taught me a sense of tradition and community," he said of his parishioners at St. Joseph of the Holy Family.

Born in Manhattan, he graduated from Iona Prep in New Rochelle and Fordham University before entering St. Joseph's Seminary. He was ordained in 1967 and named a monsignor in 1990.

Msgr. Calkins is survived by his sister, Carole. Burial was in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hawthorne.

Johann Christoph Arnold

BRUDERHOF SENIOR ELDER WAS VOICE FOR PEACE

Johann Christoph Arnold, who was senior elder of the Bruderhof Communities, a Christian communal church, and a voice for peace and reconciliation, died April 15. He was 76.

He was well known for his efforts on behalf of peace and reconciliation to school and church groups in New York and throughout the United States and across the world. Many of his travels were ecumenical in nature, working together with paralyzed NYPD Detective Steven McDonald, a Catholic. They made international visits to Northern Ireland and Israel.

When McDonald died at age 59 on Jan. 10, just days after suffering a heart attack, Arnold spoke with CNY of his collaborator, saying, "He made a deep impact on my life...I'm glad he's with Jesus," adding that his friend "longed for that for many years."

An obituary remembrance prepared by his son Heinrich Arnold told how the Bruderhof Community was forced to flee from Germany after experiencing religious persecution by the Nazis. The Bruderhof later made their way to Paraguay in South America before

young Christoph moved with his family in 1954 to the Woodcrest community in Rifton in Ulster County, where he would live for the rest of his life.

He was ordained as a pastor in 1972 and then in 1983 as elder of the Bruderhof. He served as senior elder from 2001 until his death. Under his leadership, the Bruderhof expanded from North America back into Europe and South America, and added communities in Australia.

He was the author of 12 books published in 20 languages on issues such as marriage, family, raising and educating children, forgiveness, death and dying, peace and faith. His most widely read and best-loved book is "Why Forgive?"

He served as chaplain to the Ulster County Sheriff's Office and Ulster County Police Chiefs Association.

Born in England, he married his wife, Verena Meier Arnold, in 1966. They had eight children, seven of whom survive him. They are also the grandparents of 44 and great-grandparents of four.

A public funeral service and burial took place April 20 at Woodcrest.

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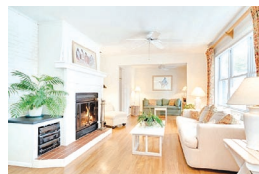
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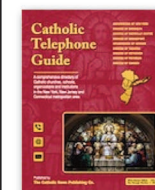
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