

Tributes

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Niles - Harry J. Ashner, 83, formerly of Park Ridge and Chicago, died on Saturday, Jan. 25. He worked in accounting and was a volunteer with the Park Ridge Police Citizens Patrol. He was a brother, uncle, grand-uncle, son, and companion. Skaja Terrace Funeral Home, Niles, was in charge of arrangements.

Yvonna E. Baldrige

Des Plaines - Yvonna E. Baldrige, 76, died on Friday, Jan. 24. She was

Harry J. Ashner



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Rev. Boland of OLPH in Glenview delivers a homily. (Photo submitted)

OLPH's Boland Reflects On New Role As Vicar

By **DENISE FLEISCHER**
 Lifestyles Editor

In late December, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich appointed Rev. Jeremiah Boland, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish (OLPH) in Glenview, as an interim vicar. This was due to the transfer of Bishop Grob to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee as its new archbishop on Jan. 14.

The area that is Vicariate I includes Lake County and parts of northern Cook County. The Archdiocese is divided into six Vicariates. Vicars assist Cardinal Cupich in the governance of the diocese.

This will be a temporary assignment for Boland. "The assignment allows me to remain as pastor of OLPH. The vicar handles largely administrative issues. With over 60 parishes, many schools, monasteries, and other institutions, it is a challenge," he said.

"I am still pastor throughout this assignment and will continue to be after this assignment ends," Boland added. "The new vicar should be assigned by early spring, hopefully by the end of March. No dates have been established at this time."

Boland entered the seminary at college and was ordained a priest in 1981. He holds a Master of Divinity degree and a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the University of St. Mary of the Lake.

He has served at the following parishes: St. James, Arlington Heights; Mary, Seat of Wisdom, Park Ridge; Holy Cross, Deerfield; and Holy Family on Roosevelt Road in Chicago. He has also served as director of priest personnel for the Archdiocese of Chicago. He has served as a member of the College of Consultors, Chair of the Association of Chicago Priests, and Chair of the Presbyteral Council.

Boland celebrated the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood in 2021.

"As a pastor, I am ultimately responsible for the well-being and the administration of

the parish," he said. "We are one of the largest parishes and the largest parish school in the Archdiocese."

About 3,200 registered families attend OLPH, over 800 students at the school, with over 110 employees. The OLPH campus is made up of 10 buildings, including school rooms, Rectory, Parish Center, Sharing Resource Center, and church.

Boland oversaw a \$5 million capital campaign and implementation of the goals of the Parish Transformation initiative and the Renew My Church efforts during his early years at the parish.

All of these have delivered results, such as converting the convent into a Parish Center with meeting spaces for the numerous parish ministries and organizations, building four STEM labs for the school, and other investments.

Boland also spearheaded the Centennial Celebration of the parish in 2019, which brought the campus the Helleman Garden featuring a statue of the Blessed Mother, and most recently the installation of a new bells system and clock tower in the church.

Boland's interests include history, architecture, travel and photography. He enjoyed taking parishioners on pilgrimages to the Holy Land and other areas of spiritual or historical significance around the globe.

"I love Glenview, (the) community is active and engaged," he said. "People establish long roots, for many it is an intergenerational community. There is a wonderful relationship among the various communities of faith. Our parish has had a wonderful 104-year relationship with Glenview."

It was recently announced that Boland, along with Sister Paulanne Held and school Principal Dr. Amy Mills will be honored at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake's 32nd annual Celebration of Mundelein on April 24. This prestigious event supports Mundelein Seminary and its mission of shaping the future of the priesthood.

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