

COMMUNITY NEWS

Kenneth Archibold France-Kelly

Obituary

France-Kelly, OP Father Kenneth Archibold France-Kelly, O.P., died on the morning of June 21, 2015, in the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus, OH, after an extended illness, at the age of 71. Fr. France-Kelly dedicated his life to parochial ministry and the promotion of many of the shrines throughout the Province of St. Joseph. He is survived by his brother, Bradley France-Kelly from Loris, SC; his brother, David (wife, Patty) France-Kelly from Millsboro, DE; and his sister, Karen France-Kelly Harpe from Troy, NC. Fr. France-Kelly was born June 22, 1943, in Baltimore, MD, to Morton Joseph France-Kelly and Helen Oliva (née Hegarty) France-Kelly and named Kenneth Archibold. He attended Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament School in Washington, DC, and then Saint Charles College High School in Catonsville, MD. He earned an AA in classics from St. Charles College in 1963, a BA in history from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY, in 1966, and a MA in counseling and guidance from the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, 1969. Fr. France-Kelly taught at Eastern Senior High School in the DC Public School System for seven years from 1968-1975. He entered the Dominican Novitiate in August of 1975 at St. Stephen Priory in Dover, MA. He made his first profession at St. Stephen's on August 16, 1976 and his solemn profession at the Priory of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, on August of 1980. He studied Philosophy and Theology at the PFIC in Washington, DC, earning a STB and an MDiv. On June 5, 1981 he was ordained a priest in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence, RI, by Bishop Louis Edward Gelineau. From 1981-1983 and again from 1984-1986, Fr. France-Kelly was assigned to St. Dominic Priory in Youngstown, OH, where he served as a parochial vicar, part-time itinerant preacher, and spiritual director for Cursillo. During 1983-1984, he returned to the Priory of the Immaculate Conception to complete his complementary studies. In January of 1986, Fr. France-Kelly went to our mission in Nairobi, Kenya, where he taught at the Apostles of Jesus Major Seminary and served as chaplain to the cloistered nuns at the Corpus Christi Monastery in Karen-Nairobi. In July of 1987, Fr. France-Kelly returned to the United States and was assigned to St. Vincent Ferrer Priory in New York City where he served as a parochial vicar. While in New York, he was appointed Director of the Deserving Poor Boys Priesthood Association and the Executive Director of Operations for the Dominican Friars Guilds. In September of 1993, he was assigned to St. Patrick Rectory in Columbus, OH, where he served as parochial vicar at St. Patrick Parish. While working at the parish, he established the Blessed Margaret Guild. In 1995, he was appointed superior of the Dominican community and pastor of the parish. In May of 1999, Fr. France-Kelly was asked by the Prior Provincial to facilitate the relocation of the

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"You will be missed, Fr. Ken.

You had a great, but quirky,..."

- Judy Leddy

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assignment to Sacred Heart Priory in Jersey City, NJ, in 2004, Fr. France-Kelly was assigned to St. Louis Bertrand Priory in Louisville, KY in July of 2005, where he served at St. Louis Bertrand Parish. In May of 2008, he was assigned to St. Catherine of Siena Priory in New York City where he served as Director of the Shrine of St. Jude. While at St. Catherine's, Fr. France-Kelly began suffering from an increasing number of health related difficulties. In November of 2014, he began residence at the Mohun Health Care Center to better provide for his needs. At 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, 2015, Father's body will be received at the Mohun Health Care Center where visitation will follow until 4:30 p.m. when there will be the Office of the Dead. Father will also lie in state at St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave. Wednesday, June 24 from 9-10 a.m. when the Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Patrick Church with Fr. Kenneth Letoile, O.P., Prior Provincial, as principal celebrant and Fr. Albert Paretsky, O.P., as homilist. Interment will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery in Somerset, OH. Arrangements completed by EGAN-RYAN FUNERAL HOME, 403 E. BROAD ST. Visit www.egan-ryan.com for condolences.

Funeral Home

Egan-Ryan Funeral Service - Central Chapel
 403 East Broad Street
 Columbus, OH 43215
 (614) 221-6665

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