FATHER JAMES OGURCHOCK PASSES AWAY

COLUMBUS – Father James Albert Ogurchock, longtime priest in the Diocese of Columbus, died July 7, 2018, while in residence at the Villas of Saint Therese.

The son of James and Anna (Ziegler) Ogurchock, he was born on October 2, 1932, in Akron, Ohio. A graduate of Akron’s St. Mary High School, his seminary formation for the priesthood began at the former St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Columbus, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree, and continued with his theological studies at Mount Saint Mary’s of the West Seminary, Cincinnati, where he received his Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Columbus by the Most Reverend Clarence G. Issenmann, Bishop of Columbus, at St. Joseph Cathedral on May 31, 1958.

During his 60 years of priestly ministry in the Diocese, Father Ogurchock served in the following parishes: St. Nicholas, Zanesville; St. Leo, Columbus; Our Lady of Lourdes, Marysville; Holy Spirit, Columbus; and St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus.
A major advocate and supporter of Catholic education, Father Ogurchock also served as an instructor at Bishop Hartley High School, Columbus; and Bishop Ready High School, Columbus. He also served as principal at Bishop Rosecrans High School, Zanesville; assistant superintendent of Diocesan Catholic Schools; and as the diocesan Vicar for Religious.

He also served as chaplain of Mount Carmel—East Hospital until his retirement from ministry in 2008. Following his retirement, he assisted at a number of parishes, primarily at St. Matthew the Apostle Parish, Gahanna, and St. Catharine of Siena Parish, Columbus.

Calling hours for Father Ogurchock will be on Wednesday, July 11, 3–7 p.m., concluding with a Rosary at 7 p.m., at St. Matthew the Apostle Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Visitation will resume at the church on Thursday, July 12, at 10 a.m., continuing until just prior to the 11 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial. Bishop Frederick F. Campbell will celebrate the Mass and preach the homily, Bishop Emeritus James A. Griffin will concelebrate along with priests of the Diocese; burial will take place at St. Joseph Cemetery, Lockbourne.

In lieu of flowers, friends who wish may contribute to the Father James A. and Father John J. Ogurchock Scholarship Endowment Fund at the Catholic Foundation, 257 East Broad Street, Columbus, 43215, or the Mount Carmel Foundation, 6150 East Broad Street, Columbus, 43213.

#####