



DIocese of ST. PETERSBURG

Office of the Chancellor

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MEMORANDUM

May 3, 2016

TO: All Parishes in the Diocese of St. Petersburg
Retired priests, Spirit FM, Pastoral Center Employees
Calvary Catholic Cemetery
FROM: Joan G. Morgan, Chancellor
RE: Death of Reverend Matas (Matthew) Cyvas, Retired
April 30, 1916 - May 2, 2016
100 years plus 2 days old!



Word has reached the Chancellor's Office that Reverend Dr. Matas Cyvas passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family and friends, on May 2, 2016 in St. Pete Beach.

Father Cyvas was born on April 30, 1916 in rural Lithuania, graduated from high school and in 1934 entered the Catholic Seminary in Kaunas, Lithuania. Was ordained as a priest on January 26, 1941 and was assigned as a vicar at the Holy Cross Church in Kaunas. In 1941, due to World War II, he was displaced to Austria. All these years of exile, Fr. Matthew was the personal secretary to H.E. Archbishop Juozas Skvireckas, Archbishop of Kaunas. From there he went to Rome, Italy, where in 1947 he obtained a doctor's degree in Canon Law. While in Rome, Fr. Cyvas resided at the Pontifical Lithuanian College.

In 1949, Rev. Dr. Cyvas immigrated to San Diego, CA where he worked in the Bishop's Family Tribunal and in 1963 was assigned to lead the St. George Lithuanian Parish in Albany, NY, where he worked for 25 years. In 1988 he moved to the Franciscan Lithuanian Mission in St. Pete Beach, FL, where he celebrated his 50, 60, and 70 years of priesthood and just a few days ago, Rev. Dr. Cyvas celebrated his 100-year birthday with family and friends.

Funeral Arrangements follows:

Thursday, May 5-2016 9:00 to 11:00 am: Wake at the BEACH MEMORIAL CHAPEL
301 Corey Ave., St. Pete Beach, FL
Ph: 727-360-5577

12:00 Noon Funeral Mass at the Most Holy Name of Jesus Church
5800 15th. Ave., Gulfport; followed by dinner at the
Lithuanian Club, 4880 46th. Ave. N, St. Petersburg

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in eternal peace!