



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Pastors and Parish Staff Members  
in the Diocese of St. Petersburg

FROM: Joan G. Morgan, Chancellor

RE: Reverend Arthur M. Villemaire  
July 7, 1925 – June 10, 2017

DATE: June 12, 2017



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We received word of the death of **Reverend Arthur M. Villemaire, 91**, a retired priest of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, on Saturday, June 10, 2017, while under Hospice care in Sun City Center.

Father Villemaire was born to Alfred and Marie Anne (Phaneuf) Villemaire in Ruskin, Florida. As a teenager, he moved to Québec, Canada, where he began and completed his high school seminary training at St. Charles High School, in Sherbrooke. Eight years later, he graduated from Holy Apostles Seminary and was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Sherbrooke, on May 19, 1951.

Throughout his 65 years of priestly ministry, Father Villemaire served as parochial vicar of three parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Sherbrooke. He also spent 14 years as a high school teacher at his alma mater, before moving to Tallahassee, Florida, where he served as a priest in residence at the Thomas More Student Center and Blessed Sacrament Parish.

In 1981, Father Villemaire moved closer to Ruskin to be near his aging mother. He was incardinated into the Diocese of St. Petersburg in 1986. He served as parochial vicar of the following parishes: St. John Vianney, St. Pete Beach, Transfiguration, St. Petersburg, Prince of Peace, Sun City Center, Most Holy Name of Jesus, Gulfport, and St. Benedict, Crystal River. In 1996, he was appointed as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Dade City, where he served until his retirement in 2000. Upon retirement, Father Villemaire returned to his native Ruskin, where he faithfully provided assistance to St. Anne Parish.

Surviving family members include Father Villemaire's sister, Yvonne Kiraly, and brothers John, Joseph and Alfred, Jr., along with their wives, sister-in-law Paulette Villemaire, brother-in-law Bernard LaRocque and numerous nieces and nephews.

All funeral services will be held at **St. Anne Catholic Church, 106 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.E., Ruskin.**  
Arrangements are as follows:

**Visitation: Wednesday, June 14, 2017, 2:00-8:00 p.m.**  
**Vespers Service: 6:30 p.m.**

**Funeral Mass: Thursday, June 15, 2017, 1:00 p.m. Very Reverend John McEvoy, V.F., presiding**  
**Burial to follow in Ruskin Memorial Park.**

All clergy who wish to participate should bring an alb and white stole.  
In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Lifepath Hospice, 3010 W. Azelee St., Tampa, FL 33609.

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