



## Reverend Robert W. Barnes

Obituary Condolences

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- Barnes Records (87)

Reverend Robert W. Barnes Retired Priest of the Diocese of Norwich December 25, 1921 - July 5, 2008 Norwich - The Reverend Robert W. Barnes, retired priest of the Diocese of Norwich, died Saturday, July 5, 2008, in Brooklyn, he was 86. Father Barnes had been a lifelong educator and a pastor of several parishes in the diocese, including Our Lady of Grace Parish on Fishers Island, from where he retired in 2002. Father Barnes was born in Rumford, Rhode Island, December 25, 1921, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Barnes Sr. Father Barnes was a graduate of Catholic University of America, Washington D.C., and received a Master of Arts degree in Constitutional Law from Manhattan College, Riverdale, New York. After serving as a member of the De La Salle Christian Brothers for 30 years, he attended Pope John XXIII National Seminary, Weston, MA, to prepare for the priesthood. He earned a Master of Divinity degree at Pope John XXIII. Father Barnes was ordained to the priesthood on February 23, 1980 by Bishop Daniel P. Reilly at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick, Norwich, Ct. Serving as pastor and teacher in the diocese, Father Barnes went on to complete his Ph. D. studies at St. John's University, Queens, New York. In 1981, he was appointed principal of Saint Bernard High School in Uncasville. There he is remembered as having been instrumental in securing accreditation for St. Bernard from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Among his many distinguished recognitions were a Wall Street Journal Fellowship and a special Educational Television Grant from Brown University. Father



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Barnes is survived by two brothers, Peter Barnes, Jr. of Edison, New Jersey and Dr. Kenneth A. Barnes of Cranston, Rhode Island; a sister, Elizabeth Pavilion of Shaker Heights, Ohio; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his brother, William Barnes of West Hartford. The Transfer of the Body to Saint Joseph Church in Occum will take place at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, July 10, 2008. Following that ceremony, his body will lie in state from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church. A Parish Mass will be celebrated for his repose on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. in St. Joseph Church. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated by Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich on Friday, July 11, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Joseph's. The homilist will be Father Robert Washabaugh. Burial will be in the priests' plot at St. Joseph Cemetery in Norwich. Potter Funeral Home, 456 Jackson Street in Willimantic is handling the arrangements. Donations may be made in honor of Father Barnes to: Saint Bernard High School Endowment Trust Fund, 201 Broadway, Norwich, CT 06360. For online memorial guestbook, please visit [www.potterfuneralhome.com](http://www.potterfuneralhome.com).

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## REMEMBER

Share memories or express condolences below.

THE GUEST BOOK IS EXPIRED

*"I would like to express my sympathy to the family of Father Barnes for their loss. He will surely be..."*

**-Anne Collelo**

11 ENTRIES

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