

In Memory of Fr. Vincent O'Reilly, who passed away Saturday March 22nd, 2025.

The Founding Priest of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Vacaville, CA Fr. Vincent O'Reilly Served St. Joseph Parish, Vacaville from 1992 to 2007.



Fr. Vincent O'Reilly Served St. Joseph Parish, Vacaville from 1992 to 2007. Vincent O'Reilly grew up in County Cavan, Ireland. He attended the seminary in Thurles, County Tipperary, where he was ordained on the Feast of the Pentecost, 1962. Upon his arrival in Sacramento he was assigned to St. John the Baptist, in Folsom. This was followed with assignments at Holy Spirit and Sacred Heart parishes in Sacramento. In September 1968 he was appointed chaplain at Loretto High School where he taught for six years. For two of those years, he was also Financial Administrator at St. Francis High School. During those years he obtained master's degrees in theology and religious studies from USF and from Seattle University. During these years he served several terms as a member of the Diocesan Priests Council and was provincial representative on the Nation's Federation of Priests Council for three years. In the early 70's he was a member of a small group which founded the Sacramento Life Center. From 1974 - 1977 he served at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Carmichael. In September 1977 he was

appointed Administrator at St. Lawrence in North Highlands, and the following year, was appointed Pastor. During his nine years at St. Lawrence, a parochial school was opened (K-8) and a permanent church was erected. In June of 1986 he resigned as Pastor to take a year's sabbatical during which he completed graduate studies at the Weston School of Theology and Harvard School of Divinity in Boston. Upon his return to the diocese, he served in Colfax, North Sacramento and in Auburn. In May of 1992 he was appointed by Bishop Francis Quinn as founding Pastor of what was to become St. Joseph Church, Vacaville. During his fifteen years at St. Joseph, a large parish center was built and a permanent church erected and dedicated in 2004. Father O'Reilly retired in 2007. He continues to study Theology, Scripture and History and is very grateful for the support and affirmation he has received throughout his years in the ministry. The faith of the membership has always been a source of inspiration to him, and he is still amazed at the generosity of the faithful. He believes that if he has accomplished anything during his years in the ministry, his accomplishments were made possible after the grace of the Lord, through the faith, generosity and sacrifice of the faithful.

The Funeral Mass for Fr. Vincent O'Reilly will be celebrated at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Vacaville on April 9, 2025, at 11AM. A luncheon will be served immediately following in the St. Joseph Parish Center. All are welcome!

In lieu of flowers Father O'Reilly would like donations to be made to the Notre Dame School Endowment Fund.

Fr. Guillermo Hernandez: "We are deeply grateful for the life and legacy of Fr. Vincent O'Reilly. He has left a remarkable impact, and stepping into his role is no small task. I truly admire his wisdom, wit, and courage. "