

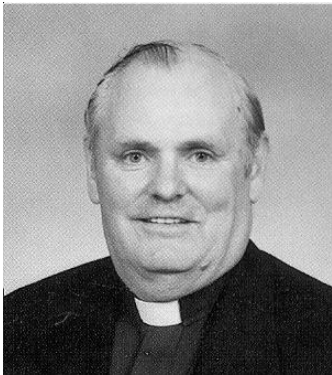
The
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LEO CHARLES CAMPBELL, CSB
20 JULY 1939 – 14 FEBRUARY 2008



LEO CHARLES CAMPBELL died suddenly in the early evening of Thursday 14 February 2008 at the residence of the Basilian Fathers of St. Michael's College School (Oriole Parkway), Toronto. Leo had been experiencing laboured breathing for a few days. After supper he went to work on the computer. A short time later Fr. John Malo, Rector, went to see if Leo had accessed the Internet and found that he was dead.

Fr. Campbell's body was brought to Holy Rosary Church, Toronto, Monday 18 February for viewing and a Vigil Service that evening. Fr. Daniel Chui, Rector and Pastor, presided and Fr. Paul McGill gave the homily. The following morning a Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated, also at Holy Rosary, with V. Rev. Kenneth Decker, Superior General, as Principal Celebrant and Fr. Malo as homilist. Fr. Decker offered the Final Commendation. Burial followed immediately in the Basilian plot at Holy Cross Cemetery, Thornhill, ON. Fr. Donald McLeod led the prayers at the graveside.

Confreres are reminded of the usual suffrages for the repose of his soul.

Leo Charles Campbell was born 20 July 1939 in Dominion, Nova Scotia, one of eight children born to Leo and Christina (MacLeod) Campbell. He attended both elementary and secondary school in Dominion. After working a year, Leo began university work at St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia. He completed three years of study but then had to suspend this to deal with tuberculosis which resulted in the removal of part of his left lung. He was employed by General Motors and worked in Montreal, but a persistent, strong desire to become a priest remained with him and eventually led to his entry into St. Basil's Novitiate, Erindale, Ontario in September 1965 and the professing of first vows on 12 September 1966. Others professed that year are Edward Heidt, J.R. Stephen LaCroix, J. Michael Miller, and François Morfin. He completed his B.A. in 1968 at the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas. Prior to entering St. Basil's College for Theological studies, Leo taught two years at Michael Power High School, Etobicoke, Ontario. He was awarded his Master of Divinity in 1973 and served as a Deacon at St. Cecilia's Parish (Ceciliaville) in Detroit. Ordination to the Priesthood was celebrated 15 June 1974 in Immaculate Conception Church, Bridgeport, Nova Scotia. Most Rev. William E. Power, Bishop of Antigonish, was the ordaining bishop. Others ordained in 1974 include Robert Barringer, Robert Glass, Jack Hanna, Robert Moslosky, Douglas Mosey, Thomas Sepulveda, Norman Tanck, and the late Richard Killaire.

Subsequent to his ordination, Leo served in the following ministries:

Assumption College School, Windsor	1974-1977
St. Mary's High School, Calgary	1977-1979
Assumption Church, Windsor	1979-1980
St. Mary's College, Sault Ste. Marie	1980-1988
St. Michael's College School, Toronto	1988-1993
St. Thomas More College, Saskatoon	1993-1995
Holy Rosary Church, Toronto	1995-1998
St. Michael's College School	1998-2000
Holy Rosary Church, Toronto	2001-2008

Joyful, optimistic, hospitable, out-going, humble, patient, and gregarious are just a few of the words many people used to describe Leo Campbell. The one word, however, which recurred most often, was love. Leo was a man of love; he loved his family, his Celtic heritage, music, the Basilian Fathers, the priesthood, and above all, he loved God.

Leo was a people person. He was most fully alive when he was with other people, especially at celebratory moments. He had a great ability to bring people together, especially through his music, song, storytelling. He took great delight in regaling others with stories, many of which suffered from a bit of "Campbell embellishment." As Paul McGill noted in his homily at the wake service, "True to his Cape Breton's roots, Leo loved a party, and nothing gave him more pleasure than to host a barbeque on the back deck at Holy Rosary for family and friends...which included a full evening of music, song, and stories."

It was also extremely important for him to share his faith with others. As a priest, he understood himself as an instrument of God, one through whom Jesus Christ worked. This was evident from the night he was ordained when he was called upon to attend to a person injured in an

automobile accident. He ministered in several settings: Columbus Boys' Camp, as a high school teacher and administrator, university chaplain, and parish priest. He had a special ability to reach out to the disenfranchised and alienated.

Just as he loved to bring people together for food, music, song and storytelling, Leo also loved to bring people together through the Eucharist. For nearly thirty-four years, he celebrated the Eucharist faithfully and prayerfully. He took his responsibility to preach the Gospel very seriously. The number of people attending both the Vigil Service and the Funeral Liturgy attests to the number of lives Leo touched in his various ministries as a Basilian.

Leo is predeceased by his parents, his sister Catherine, and step-mother, Jackie (Pickup) Campbell. He is survived by brothers Arthur, Terrance, John, and George, sisters Sheila Murphy and Josephine Stoyles, step-brother, Frank Pickup, step-sister, Micky Barrett, an aunt, Mary Collins, and many nieces and nephews. To them and to the many other friends, parishioners, and colleagues, the Basilian Fathers extend their sympathy and a promise of prayers.

May Leo rest in the peace of Christ and intercede for his family and for the Congregation of St. Basil.

Contributors: R. Madden, J. Malo, P. McGill, D. McLeod, D. Noelke