



Reverend Joseph LaVoie, AFSC

Fr. Joe LaVoie, an affiliated member of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, entered eternal life early Saturday morning, January 5, 2013. Joe was seventy-seven-years-old.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, January 9 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Berardinelli Family Funeral Service, followed by a viewing from 5-6 p.m. at Cristo Rey Catholic Church with a rosary at 6 p.m.

A Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated on Thursday, January 10 at 11 a.m. at Cristo Rey Church. Cremation will follow the Mass with interment at Rosario Cemetery on Wednesday, January 16 at 2 p.m.



May our gracious God, whose glory Father Joe steadfastly procured as far as he was able and who sought tirelessly to serve, receive his servant into the heavenly Jerusalem, where, with all the saints, he will know fully the God in whom he so firmly believed and faithfully served.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Fr. Joe was born on June 24, 1935, in Nashua, New Hampshire, to Edmond LaVoie and Amy Hammond. Following service in the U.S. Army he began his seminary studies at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Santa Fe and completed them at St. Thomas Seminary in Denver, Colorado.

Joe was ordained as a priest for the Archdiocese of Santa Fe at his home parish of St. John the Baptist de La Salle in Manchester, New Hampshire, on May 16, 1964. His first assignment was

as a teacher at St. Pius X High School in Albuquerque. He was then assigned to be on staff at IHM Seminary in Santa Fe. After completing a Master's degree in history from U.N.M., Joe taught history at the College of Santa Fe for many years as well as serving as campus minister. Joe then served as the Catholic Chaplain at the New Mexico State Penitentiary for twelve years. After this he was on sabbatical for a year in Chicago before returning once again to the staff of IHM Seminary. His next assignment was as pastor of San Juan de los Caballeros Parish in Ohkay Owingeh, NM, for six years. Upon retirement he returned to Santa Fe and served as the chaplain at the College of Santa Fe until 2009.

Father Joseph Lavoie was intimately involved in one way or another with the Christian Brothers for over forty years serving as chaplain for the student Brothers at St. Michael's College and then the College of Santa Fe in the 1960s and 70s, at Sangre de Cristo Renewal Center, at the San Miguel Mission, as well as caring for the spiritual needs of the Christian Brothers in Santa Fe until just shortly before his death.

Joe was an advocate for the disenfranchised and dispossessed. At the request of Bro. Joseph Porter, coordinator of education services at the penitentiary of New Mexico in Santa Fe, he taught European history classes to the inmates—to replace teachers who refused to complete the courses after the riot of 1980.

He was deeply in love with Christ and called others to the intimacy of His friendship. He had near limitless energy for the young people he taught and counseled at the College of Santa Fe, and his life and witness were testaments to that inclusive love. We recognized in him the Good Shepherd and Ambassador of Christ that Saint La Salle calls us to in our educational ministry.

For all of these reasons the Christian Brothers affiliated him to the Institute in 2009. He was a son of De La Salle.

Fr. Joe was preceded in death by his parents as well as by his sister, Michele Lovejoy, and his brother, Frederick. He is survived by his brother Jon Lance LaVoie of Titusville, Florida and nephews and nieces.

A special thanks is extended to all whose compassionate care enhanced Fr. Joe's quality of life as death was imminent: his physicians, hospice staff, and in particular Joseph and Jade Marie Comellas who cared for him until his last breath at home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Christian Brothers Retirement Fund, 96 Siringo Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505.

You are invited to sign the guestbook for the family at: www.berardinellifuneralhome.com