



## Rev. William E. Grogan Jr.

December 17, 1955 - August 25, 2024

Reverend William E. Grogan, Jr., Pastor, Holy Cross Parish, Philadelphia, died on Sunday,

August 25, 2024. He was 68 years old.

Father Grogan was born in Baltimore, Maryland. He is the son of the late William E. and Nora

M. (Loughrey) Grogan. Surviving is his loving family including 3 sisters and two brothers,

Maryanne Porter (Jim) of Woodlyn, PA; Rev. James J. Grogan of Moorestown, NJ;

Patricia Byrnes (Don) of York, PA; Jeanmarie Blaisse (Robert) of Newtown Square, PA;

and Thomas F. Grogan (Nancy) of Wallingford, PA; many nieces and nephews; and

many other loving family members and friends.

Father Grogan attended Saint Teresa of Avila, Valley Forge and Our Lady of Charity,

Brookhaven Parochial Schools, Saint Joseph's Preparatory High School, Philadelphia, and Saint

Joseph's University, Philadelphia, before entering Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary.

Father Grogan was ordained on May 21, 1983, at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul,

Philadelphia by His Eminence John Cardinal Krol. Father Grogan served as Assistant Pastor, St.

Martin of Tours Parish, Philadelphia; St. Kevin Parish, Springfield. He served on the faculty at

Cardinal Dougherty High School, Philadelphia, and St. Pius X High School, Pottstown. Father

Grogan served as Newman Chaplain to Drexel University, where he was also parochial vicar at

St. Agatha – St. James Parish. He was named President of Archbishop John Carroll High School,

Radnor, in 2007 and served until 2009. He was appointed Pastor, All Saint Parish, Philadelphia

from 2009 to 2013. Most recently in 2013 he was appointed Pastor, of his beloved Holy Cross

Parish, Philadelphia, where he was loved by all who knew him.

Funeral arrangements for Father Grogan are as follows; The Reception of the Body will be held

on Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 8:30 AM, at Holy Cross Church, 140 E. Mount Airy Avenue,

Philadelphia, PA followed by a viewing beginning at 9:00 AM – 10:50 AM followed by a

Funeral Mass at 11:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Fr. Grogan's memory to St. Charles

Borromeo Seminary, 1400 Evans Rd, Ambler, PA 19002.

# Previous Events

## Receiving of Fr. William E. Grogan, Jr.

AUG 29. 8:30 AM (Est)

Holy Cross Church  
140 East Mount Airy Avenue  
Philadelphia , PA 19119

## Visitation

AUG 29. 9:00 AM - 10:50 AM (Est)

Holy Cross Church  
140 East Mount Airy Avenue  
Philadelphia , PA 19119

## Funeral Mass

AUG 29. 11:00 AM (Est)

Holy Cross Church  
140 East Mount Airy Avenue  
Philadelphia , PA 19119

# Tribute Wall

KK

“ Karen K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. William E. Grogan Jr..

Karen K. - September 01, 2024 at 04:34 PM

AG

“ My condolences to the family and parishioners. Met Father Bill and his blue car (Mustang?) at St Martin's while I was still attending SJU. After moving to California, was pleasantly surprised to hear from him in August 86 when he was visiting San Francisco and my son had just been born. He was a welcomed face from home. May he rest in the arms of our Lord.

Anne Gooch - September 01, 2024 at 01:31 AM

JM

“ I remembered when he was being introduced in my classroom when he was assigned to St Martin of Tours. Very young to us as he has no grey hair and was friendly. I was happy when he was assigned to Cardinal Dougherty. I saw him at BJ's wholesale club in tire dept installing the tires on his car. I spoke with him. One of my coworkers asked how I knew him and I explained he was a priest in my Parrish and high school when I was enrolled. As I was starting the installation my coworker went to him and asked for a blessing as he was a new father and Fr. Grogan did it without hesitation. He had a way about him. Quiet and kind.

Joe McEntee - August 30, 2024 at 10:46 AM

WM

“*Father Grogan made the church a welcoming place. He remembered the names of congregants that only came in once in a blue moon, and greeted you warmly no matter how much time had passed, making you feel like you were coming home. He was so incredibly passionate about his work and other people, and it showed every time he spoke, whether in sermons or just a personal chat. He was incredibly smart, thoughtful, kind, and beloved. He is already dearly missed. My prayers and love for his family.*

---

**Whimsy Mark** - August 29, 2024 at 06:54 PM

FP

“*Florencia P. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. William E. Grogan Jr..*

---

**Florencia P.** - August 29, 2024 at 12:30 PM

MW

“*Father Grogan, I only truly appreciated your beautiful priesthood this year in its fullest. A privilege to witness it and to be consoled by it. Such a blessing to share the pain of your loss with the flock who remain. I thank God for it and I rejoice that you join the saints who eternally see the face of God.*

---

**Melanie Watanabe** - August 28, 2024 at 09:17 PM

MW

“*Melanie W. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. William E. Grogan Jr..*

---

**Melanie W.** - August 28, 2024 at 08:58 PM

CB

“ To Maryanne, Jim and the rest of the Family. So sorry to hear about Billy’s passing. I have so many memories of him when he started in the Seminary and would come around - I remember how hard it was for me to call him Mr. Grogan. My thoughts are with you all. Try to take comfort that he is reunited with your parents.  
Clare Platt Beatty ( pat and bob’s younger sister

clare platt beatty - August 28, 2024 at 04:23 PM

LF

“ Love, Tom & Cookie Blaisse and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rev. William E. Grogan Jr..



Love, Tom & Cookie Blaisse and Family - August 28, 2024 at 03:58 PM

TF

“ The Kaiser family purchased the Gracious Laven der Basket for the family of Rev. William E. Grogan Jr..



The Kaiser family - August 28, 2024 at 02:12 PM

NW

“ Neil and Mavel Tiratto & Nativity Womens planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. William E. Grogan Sr..

Neil and Mavel Tiratto & Nativity Womens - August 27, 2024 at 03:52 PM

NW

“ Neil and Mavel Tiratto & Nativity Womens purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Rev. William E. Grogan Jr..



---

**Neil and Mavel Tiratto & Nativity Womens** - August 27, 2024 at 03:52 PM

SW

“ My prayers for the family of Father Grogan. Bill was a great priest. I remember praying for him when he entered the seminary. I was a good friend of his Aunt Mary and she had every IHM praying for him. I would meet him at meetings through the years. He was always was interested in what I was doing.

To his family...I will be with you in spirit for the funeral. I am in Camilla and promise you the prayers of all of the Sisters here. It hard to loose a sibling; may your happy memories of Bill comfort you.

God bless. Love, sr. Maryanne

---

**Sr. Maryanne Winterberg** - August 27, 2024 at 12:29 PM

PB

Thank you so much, Sister! Your kind words and prayers sustain us!

---

**Patricia Byrnes** - August 27, 2024 at 07:17 PM

MP

Thank you Sister Maryanne. I'm sure all the sisters at Camilla will have their prayers answered.

Maryanne Porter

PS I just chuckled because Bill once told me "I'm never sure who called if the message says sister Maryanne."

---

**Maryanne Porter** - August 27, 2024 at 07:40 PM

CS

“ I was a student of Fr Grogan at Cardinal Dougherty class of 95. He was an incredible human being. I worked in the religion office so I got to spend a lot of time with him. He showed up for his students during a time of tragedy and in times of joy. He came to my graduation party and visited me at College. He was the coolest priest and definitely the most influential teacher I had. The last time we connected was 2 years ago via email. We tried to make plans to meet up and it didn't work out. I'm grateful for the impact he had on my life. May He rest easy. I will be praying for his family and all who loved him.

---

**Casie Sauder** - August 27, 2024 at 09:28 AM

TC

I remember Bill when he was a seminarian and we worked together on the Hammer and Nail Club over at St. William's parish in the Lawndale section of Philly. He was a great person!

---

**Tony Clifford** - August 30, 2024 at 04:26 PM