



**Blessed are those who have died in the Lord;
let them rest from their labors for their good deeds go with them.
*(Revelation 14:13)***

January 28, 2008

Dear Father:

Our brother and fellow priest, Father Donald Leininger, entered eternal life on January 25 at the age of 76.

Father Leininger was born on April 12, 1931 in Detroit and ordained a priest on June 21, 1958, in Garrison, New York. His assignments included 14 years as a missionary in Okinawa; one year in Guam; and service as an associate pastor in Toronto and Middletown, Connecticut. During that time, he was a member of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchins and was assigned to Rome for three years.

In 1985, Father Leininger traveled to Florida and became a member of the Roman Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg. In 1989, he was appointed pastor of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, Palm Harbor, Florida, and remained in that position until his retirement in 2000.

Father Leininger will be waked at the Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons Funeral Home, 36900 Schoenherr, Sterling Heights (586-826-8550). Visitation will be on Monday, January 28, from 3 until 9 p.m., with a Rosary at 7 p.m. Father Leininger's body will lie in state at St. Bonaventure Monastery, 1740 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, on Tuesday, January 29, from 10 a.m. until the celebration of his funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Burial will take place at Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township.

Father Leininger is survived by sisters, Mary Lou (Carl) Schulte, and Rose Anne Leininger; niece, Donna Marie Baciulis; and nephew, Donald William Schulte. Condolences may be sent to Mary Lou Schulte, 27815 Lauren Street South, Harrison Township, MI 48045. Memorials can be made to St. Lawrence Seminary, 301 Church Street, Mt. Calvary, WI 53057, or to the Capuchin Mission Association, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit 48207.

Kindly include in the general intercessions of your weekend liturgies a prayer for the repose of the soul of Father Leininger. Keep him in your prayers and include him in the Masses celebrated in accord with our revised Mass Pact.

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

Very Reverend Daniel Anholzer, OFM Cap
St. Joseph Center
1820 Mt. Elliott
Detroit, MI 48207