Obituary

**Born:** Saturday, July 12, 1952  
**Died:** Thursday, November 15, 2012

The Reverend Joseph K. Parzymies, 60, of Terryville, passed away on Thursday, November 15, 2012, in his home.

He was born on July 12, 1952, in Bristol, to the late Jozef and Catherine (Kucharski) Parzymies. Father Joe was a graduate of St. Paul Catholic High School, Bristol, St. Thomas Seminary, Bloomfield, received his B.A. degree in philosophy from St. Mary's Seminary College, Cantonsville, MD, and his Master's degree from St. Mary's Seminary and the University of Baltimore. He was ordained a deacon on December 3, 1977, serving at St. Gregory in Bristol. On August 4, 1978, his ordination to priesthood was held at St. Gregory in Bristol, officiated by the Most Reverend John F. Whealon, Archbishop of Hartford. Father Joe celebrated his first mass two days later at his home parish, St. Casimir, in Terryville. During his priesthood, he served as Assistant Pastor of St. Stanislaus in Meriden and Holy Cross in New Britain, as Chaplin of Sacred Heart High School in Waterbury, and as Pastor of St. Hedwig in Union City. In addition, Father Joe acted as Administrator of St. Casimir in New Haven, St. John Fisher in Marlborough, St. Margaret in Madison, St. Ann in New Britain, and Sts. Peter and Paul in Wallingford.

Father Joe loved the priesthood and his family. As a priest, he would wholeheartedly participate in parish events and organizations. From an early age and throughout his priesthood, he had a strong interest in church liturgy, acting as choir director, arranging holy day liturgies, attending various music conventions, and acquiring a large collection of musical compositions from the United States, Poland, and Hawaii. He also was a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus and a member of the Polish American Priests Association. On a personal level, he enjoyed making friends and traveling, taking several trips, particularly to Hawaii and Poland. From his trips to Hawaii, he had developed a particular devotion to Father Damien, a devotion that sustained him during his later years.

Father Joe leaves his beloved sister, Patricia Budnick, and her husband, David, of Terryville. His other surviving relatives include his niece, Katrina, and his nephews, Brendan and Michael of Terryville, in whose lives he was actively involved. In addition, Father Joe leaves behind several cousins and friends, mostly in the United States and Poland.

The Most Reverend Henry J. Mansell, Archbishop of Hartford, will celebrate a Mass of Christian Burial on Wednesday, November 21, 2012 in St. Casimir Church, 19 Allen Street, Terryville at 11:00 a.m. Burial will follow in St.
Mary Cemetery, Terryville. The family will receive relatives and friends on Tuesday, November 20, 2012, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., in St. Casimir Church, Terryville, and a Parish Mass will follow at 7:00 p.m. Contributions may be made to St. Casimir Church, 19 Allen Street, Terryville, CT 06786. The Scott Funeral Home, 169 Main Street, Terryville is in charge of arrangements. To leave an online message of condolence, please visit Father Joe's page at http://www.scottfuneralhomeinc.com.