



Fr. Blaise F. Reinhart, O.F.M.

August 10, 2019

DOBBS FERRY, N.Y. — Aug. 12, 2019 – Fr. Blaise Reinhart, OFM, 93, a professed Franciscan friar for 67 years and a priest for 64, died on Aug. 10 at St. Cabrini Nursing Home.

A Mass of Resurrection is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Aug. 14 at Our Lady of the Angels Chapel at Siena College in Loudonville, N.Y., where Fr. Reinhart had spent most of his religious life. Fr. Kevin Mullen, OFM, provincial minister of Holy Name Province to which Fr. Reinhart belonged, will preside. Burial will be at St. Agnes Cemetery in Menands, N.Y., at a later date, following cremation.

Early Years

Fr. Reinhart was born on July 17, 1926, in the College Point section of Brooklyn, N.Y., to Andrew and Ita (née Smyth) Reinhardt and was baptized Raymond Joseph in Elmhurst, N.Y. After graduating from St. Agnes Academic School in College Point, N.Y., Blaise served in the U.S. Army during World War II as a technician with an anti-aircraft artillery battalion. He was honorably discharged on Aug 6, 1946. Blaise then attended St. Bonaventure University in Allegany, N.Y., where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1949.

He entered the Order of Friars Minor in 1950, making his first profession of vows on Aug. 13, 1951. Fr. Reinhart professed his final vows on Aug. 13, 1954 at St. Bonaventure before Fr. Celsus Wheeler, OFM. He was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Aloysius Cicognani on June 9, 1955, at Mount St. Sepulchre in Washington, D.C.

Ministry

His first assignment was to Siena College where he was to spend nearly 50 years in academic and administrative roles. Fr. Reinhart taught for three years before attending The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he earned a master's and a doctorate in economics. He returned to Siena, where from 1963 to 1965 he served as assistant academic dean and from 1965 to 1970 as dean of student services. After a brief break from Siena, during which he worked at St. Bonaventure University and at the Chapel of Our Lady of the Lake in Greenwood, N.Y., Fr. Reinhart returned to the Loudonville campus in 1971, where he taught economics and, at various times, served as chair of the economics department, vice president of student affairs, and dean of the school of business.

Fr. Reinhart retired in 2005 and was appointed emeritus professor of economics in 2007. He remained at Siena until 2014, when he moved to Holy Name Friary, the Province's skilled care facility in Ringwood, N.J. Fr. Reinhart moved to St. Cabrini Nursing Home in March of this year.

He was known for his bridge-playing skills, and for serving as chaplain on cruise ships as part of the Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America.

Fr. Reinhart is survived by a sister, Helen Hecht, and a niece, Diana Silvestri.

Memorial donations may be sent to Franciscan Friars – Holy Name Province, 144 West 32nd Street, New York, NY 10001-3202.

About Holy Name Province

Holy Name Province is the largest of seven entities in the United States belonging to the Order of Friars Minor. With ministries in 12 states along the East Coast, its nearly 300 Catholic priests and brothers serve in colleges, parishes, urban ministry centers and a wide variety of social justice ministries, as well as in overseas missions.

The Franciscan Order, founded in 1209 by St. Francis of Assisi, commemorated its 800th anniversary in 2009. Today, St. Francis, whose feast day is Oct. 4, remains one of the most widely known saints, revered for his affection for nature and care for creation.

Information about Holy Name Province can be found at www.hnp.org. News about the friars and their ministries can be found on the Facebook page of the Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province.

To leave a message on Fr. Blaise's guestbook, light a candle, obtain directions, or view other helpful services, please visit www.LGfuneralhome.com

Events

AUG **Service** 10:30AM

14

St. Mary of the Angels Chapel

Siena College, Loudonville, NY, US, 12211

Comments



“ I was in one of Fr Blaise's economics classes at Siena. While he was a proficient professor, I got to know him as a person. I have to say that our shorr talks inspired me greatly. His love for Siena was well known and I still feel his passion today.

Donald A Richards - June 09, 2020 at 01:19 PM



“ Blaise was a wonderful guy and a great asset at Siena, I worked with this gentleman on several issues 50 years ago when I was President of my fraternity Pi Iota Tau and President of my Junior class at Siena, class if '71. I enjoyed all our meeting, a lost to all, very sorry for this news, Roger Rosenthal

Roger Rosenthal - August 13, 2019 at 06:12 PM