



## Rev. James E. Gehl

October 8, 2022

Rev. James E. Gehl, 79, passed away on Saturday, October 8, 2022 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease, an illness he fought with dignity, courage and faith. Born in Johnson City, he was a graduate of Seton Catholic High School and St. Bernard's Seminary.

Ordained a Roman Catholic Priest in the Diocese of Syracuse on May 17, 1969, he served as pastor of Sacred Heart Church of Cicero for fourteen years until his retirement on June 30, 2015. Previously he served at Holy Cross Church, DeWitt; Our Lady of Sorrows, Vestal; St. Charles Borromeo, Syracuse and Most Holy Rosary, Syracuse. He also taught for six years at Bishop Grimes High School.

Father was a highly talented and self-taught painter. He travelled extensively with his cohort of friends and enjoyed his camp in Bernhards Bay. He was an exceptional athlete, especially playing basketball, and was an avid fan of Notre Dame.

Born in Johnson City to the late Sylvester and Suzanne (Ondecko) Gehl, he was predeceased by his brother, Edward in 2013, as well as his beloved dog, Mike. He is survived by his sister, Johanna "Joan" Gehl of Endicott; nephew, Dan (Ann) Gehl; great nieces, Victoria and Genevieve Gehl; several cousins and a very large flock of parishioners that he shepherded over five decades. Calling hours will be at Sacred Heart Church, 8229 Brewerton Road, Cicero from 5 to 7 pm on Sunday, October 16th, followed by the vigil of a priest at 7 pm. Mass will be at 11 am at the church on Monday, October 17th.

Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery, Johnson City, at 2:00 pm on Monday, October 17th.

Donations may be made to Sacred Heart Church, 8229 Brewerton Road, Cicero, NY 13039 or to Catholic Relief Services, 240 East Onondaga Street, 13202.

# Previous Events

## Calling Hour

OCT 16. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church  
8229 Brewerton Rd.  
Cicero, NY 13039

## Vigil

OCT 16. 7:00 PM (ET)

Ferguson Funeral Home, Inc.  
215 South Main Street  
North Syracuse, NY 13212  
(315) 458-1970  
<http://fergersonfuneralhome.com/>

## Burial

OCT 17. 2:00 PM.

Calvary Cemetery

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. James E. Gehl*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *Father Gehl was a stoic friend and supporter to our family. His presence in our lives touched my parents, siblings and our children. We are proud to have one of his paintings as a constant reminder of him and how much we all loved camp. May God bless him and keep him.*

**Jo Rabideau** - October 17, 2022 at 09:14 AM



“ *Father Gehl was an honest, sincere, and compassionate colleague at Bishop Grimes High School. He was a dear friend of my mom and dad, Tony and Jean Tirinato. They celebrate now together in Paradise.*

**Marion Brillati** - October 11, 2022 at 05:46 PM



“ *Cherie & Jim Putnam lit a candle in memory of Rev. James E. Gehl*



**Cherie & Jim Putnam** - October 10, 2022 at 10:35 PM

KH

“ Karen Hunter sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. James E. Gehl



Karen Hunter - October 10, 2022 at 09:19 AM

KH

*Peace Be With You ! Father Ghel*

Karen Hunter - October 10, 2022 at 09:21 AM

KH

*Peace Be With You ! Father Ghel*

Karen Hunter - October 10, 2022 at 09:22 AM

KH

“ Karen Hunter lit a candle in memory of Rev. James E. Gehl



Karen Hunter - October 10, 2022 at 02:32 AM

KH

*Father Ghel was always there for his parishes . He was always available for any emergency and always was at the Fish Dinners saying Hello or sitting with down with a family to eat . I will never forget his kindness and caring . So sorry for the family . Peace Karen Hunter*



Karen Hunter - October 10, 2022 at 02:36 AM

CP

*Father Gehl married my husband and myself almost 51 years ago, shortly after his ordination and assignment at Most Holy Rosary parish. So sorry to read of his passing and long courageous battle with Parkinson's. He was a wonderful priest. God Bless.*

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**Cherie & Jim Putnam** - October 10, 2022 at 10:34 PM