



Rev. Conrad Lewis Kimbrough

May 10, 1927 - July 5, 2011

The Reverend Conrad Lewis Kimbrough was born in Salisbury, NC on May 10, 1927 the son of the late Conrad Lewis Kimbrough and the late Zola Vesta Ussery Kimbrough both of Salisbury. He graduated from Boyden High School in Salisbury and after attending two years at Brevard College, graduated from Berea College in Kentucky in 1948. He began his studies for the Episcopal priesthood at Nashotah House in Nashotah, WI in 1948 where he earned his Bachelor and Master of Divinity degrees and was ordained in 1952. Over the next 15 years he served in a number of posts in the Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac, WI.

Becoming increasingly dissatisfied with his life as an Episcopalian, Father Kimbrough became a Catholic in 1977 and shortly thereafter returned to North Carolina where he applied to Bishop Michael J. Begley, the first Bishop of Charlotte, for ordination as a Catholic priest. After a few months of study at Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corners, WI, Bishop Begley ordained him on February 11, 1978 at St. Ann's Church in Charlotte.

He served in the Diocese of Charlotte as a Diocesan Consultor, a member of the Diocesan Presbyteral Council, and the Diocesan Vocations Committee in addition to serving as pastor of a number of parishes including St. Francis of Assisi in Lenoir, St. Dorothy's in Lincolnton, Immaculate Conception in Hendersonville, St. Benedict's in Greensboro, and Holy Spirit in Denver. He

served for a brief time as administrator at St. William's in Murphy., NC. He was a fervent promoter of priestly and religious vocations. During his time at St. Benedict's Parish in Greensboro he sent nine men to the seminary and two women to religious life. A champion for the protection of the unborn, Father Kimbrough was active in the Pro-Life movement and was instrumental in establishing Room at the Inn a residential home for mothers in Denver, NC. He was also an avid genealogist, and he donated his genealogy papers to the Rowan County Public Library.

After retiring as pastor of Holy Spirit in Denver, Father Kimbrough returned to his home in Salisbury where he continued to offer parish assistance to both Sacred Heart in Salisbury and other parishes in the dioceses of Charlotte, NC and Charleston, SC. His final years were spent living at Pennyburn at Maryfield in High Point, NC, a retirement and nursing facility operated by the Poor Sisters of the Mother of God, where he continued to remain active until his health prevented him from doing so.

He is survived by one sister, Betty Jane "Betsy" Harrielle of Concord and two brothers, Frank Kimbrough of Roxboro, NC and Norman Kimbrough of Wilmington, NC, seven nieces and nephews, Frank Kimbrough, Jr., Conrad Kimbrough, III, Mark Kimbrough and David Kimbrough of Roxboro, NC, Edwin Kimbrough of Summerfield, NC, Anita Kimbrough of Pikeville, NC and Emily Kimbrough of Farmville, NC.

Solemn Evening Prayer will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by the Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, J.C.D., Bishop of Charlotte, at 11:00 a.m. on Friday with burial immediately following in the parish cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Father Kimbrough Scholarship Fund of the Te Deum Foundation, 2767 London Lane; Winston-Salem, NC 27103.

Tribute Wall



“ We extend our condolences to the family of Fr Conrad Kimbrough. We had the pleasure of his guidance here at St. Francis in Lenoir many years ago. He was a kind and generous man who had the courage to stand by his convictions. His soft demeanor belied his inner strength. May God hold him gently in His arms.##imported-begin##Robert and Carol Stofko##imported-end##

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