



Rt Rev Michael Campbell OSA
Bishop of Lancaster

Bishop's Office
The Pastoral Centre
Balmoral Road
Lancaster
LA1 3BT

To all Priests in the Diocese

3 October 2017

Dear Father,

It is with deep sadness that I write to inform you that **Father Kevin Lowry** died in the early hours of Sunday 1 October 2017 in Blackpool Victoria Hospital. May he rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.

Kevin Lowry was born on 13 June 1950, in Carlisle, Cumbria, where he would later attend St Margaret Mary's School, Carlisle and Austin Friars School. He joined the Augustinian Order (OSA) straight from school in 1969, making his first profession in 1970. Studies followed at Milltown Park, Dublin and the Angelicum, Rome, and he was ordained a priest in the chapel at Austin Friars on 18 September 1976.

The newly-ordained Father Lowry was first appointed to St Monica's, Hoxton (1975-1981), as a deacon while doing a pastoral year whilst at Heythrop College, then as Assistant Priest and finally as Parish Priest (1977-1981). At the time, he was said to be the youngest Parish Priest in England, still then in his late twenties! Appointments followed in Augustinian parishes (Harborne and Quinton) in Birmingham (1981-1983), then in St Augustine's, Hammersmith (1983-1985).

Father Kevin then went on the missions and was assigned to the first Augustinian community in Inchon, South Korea (1985-1993) arriving there in September 1985, where he remained until March 1993. Two years at a language school, with a variety of pastoral experiences, including supplying in parishes and working as a residential hospital chaplain in the Our Lady of Mercy Hospital in Pupyong, was followed by an appointment as Superior Assistant Priest in 1989 at the first Augustinian parish in Korea, of Christ the King, Inchon. He later took over as Parish Priest in 1992.

Returning to the UK in 1993, he was appointed to the Augustinian parish in Currie, until 1995, when he was assigned once again to St Monica's, Hoxton as Parish Priest until 1999.

In 1999, he decided to join his home Diocese of Lancaster, where he was appointed Assistant Priest at St Anthony, Preston (1999-2003) and he was canonically incardinated into the Diocese in 2003.

He was then appointed Parish Priest at Our Lady & St James', Millom (2003-2006), St Benedict's, Whitehaven (2006-2009) and then to Our Lady & St Edward's, Preston, (2009-2011).

Father Kevin then returned briefly to the Augustinians (2011-2013), serving as Parish Priest of St Joseph's, Broomhouse in Edinburgh.

Upon his return to the Diocese of Lancaster, he was appointed as temporary Parochial Administrator at the Cathedral Parish of St Peter & St Thomas More, Lancaster (May 2013-2014). From there in 2014, until his untimely death, Father Kevin served happily as Parish Priest at Holy Family, Freckleton and St Anne's, Westby.

The Deanery Mass for Father Kevin Lowry will be celebrated at Holy Family, Freckleton on Tuesday 17 October 2017 at 7.00pm.

The Requiem Mass for Father Kevin Lowry will be celebrated at St Joseph's, Ansdell on Wednesday 18 October 2017 at 11.30am. A cremation will follow afterwards.

Priests who wish to concelebrate at these liturgies are more than welcome but are requested to bring an alb and purple stole or they may, of course, attend in choir (cassock and cotta). Please do let Father David Burns VF know beforehand of your intended attendance at these liturgies: Tel: 01253 737037 or st.josephs_andsell@btinternet.com

My deepest condolences go to Father Kevin's family, especially to his father Tom, his sister Anne with her husband Tony, and indeed all who have lost a dear friend, brother priest and the parishioners who have lost a well-loved Parish Priest.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ Michael G Campbell OSA

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