

10 July 2020



Dear Father,

It is with sadness that I write to inform you Canon Frank Cookson died on Sunday 5th July 2020. May he rest in the peace of the Lord.

Canon Cookson was born on 5th October 1926 in Claughton-on-Brock. He was educated at Claughton-on-Brock Primary School, English Martyrs, Preston and Preston Catholic College. He studied for the priesthood at Ushaw Seminary.

On 19 July 1953, Canon Cookson was ordained to the priesthood at English Martyrs, Preston. Following Ordination he was appointed Assistant Priest to St Mary's, Barrow from 1953-1955; The Willows, Kirkham from 1955 -1962. He was appointed bursar at Underley Hall, St Michael's College from 1962 -1972. He then served as Parish Priest of St Mary's, Cleator from 1972 -1980; St Herbert's, Windermere from 1980-1985; St Mary's, Barrow from 1985 – 1997 and St Bernard's, Knott End from 1997 – 2002. He retired in 2002, living in Garstang until failing health necessitated his move to St Winefride's and then to Nazareth House.

There will be a Private Reception exclusively for the staff and residents at Nazareth House. This is a closed event in order to keep safe from Covid-19. Canon Cookson's Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St Thomas Apostle, Claughton-on-Brock, on Friday 17th July 2020 at 11.30am. Due to the current restrictions attendance in the church will be limited to invited clergy along with family and friends.

Following the requiem, burial will take place in the beautiful Cemetery adjoining the Church. Attendance at the burial is open to anyone who wishes to come, social distancing obviously should be kept in all circumstances.

I am grateful to the Sisters and staff at Nazareth House for their care and support to Canon Cookson in recent years. Also, I thank Brenda Murphy for her dedicated support, friendship and care of Canon in his final years.

Please keep his sisters Eileen and Doreen, and all his family and friends in your prayers at this time.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+Paul Swarbrick
Bishop of Lancaster