



August 2023

To the Clergy and Religious of the Diocese

Dear Father/Sister

It is with sadness that I write to inform you of the death of Fr. John Dobson at Blackburn Royal Infirmary on Sunday 30th July 2023. May he rest in peace.

He was born on the 13th of January 1930 in Barton, Preston. He attended St Mary and St Michael's Primary School at Bond's, Garstang, and then went to the Xaverian College for his secondary education.

In 1950 he entered Ushaw College, and was ordained to the priesthood on the 15th of July 1956 at English Martyrs, Preston.

Father John was assistant priest at Our Lady & St Joseph, Carlisle from 1956 to 1961; St Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster from 1961 to 1971; Sacred Heart, Barrow in Furness from 1971 to 1973.

He was parish priest of St Robert, Catforth from 1974 to 1984; St Mary's, Whitehaven from 1984 to 1985; Our Lady of Lourdes, Carnforth from 1985 to 1998; St Thomas, Claughton on Brock from 1999 to 2004 when he retired to Catterall, Garstang.

We express our deepest sympathies to Father John's family. We assure all who mourn Father John of our prayerful support.

We thank the Sisters and staff of McCauley Mount Care Home, Padiham for their devoted care of Fr. John during his years with them. Also, our gratitude to the staff and volunteers at St. Winefride's where Fr. John stayed prior to his move to Padiham. Our gratitude extends to Canon Peter Draper for his generous oversight of sick and retired clergy.

In Christ

+ Paul Swarbrick

Bishop of Lancaster