



Abbot David Cyr, O.S.B.

July 26, 1926 - July 21, 2018

Abbot David J. Cyr, O.S.B.

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Abbot David J. Cyr, O.S.B., a monk of Marmion Abbey, died peacefully on July 21, 2018, at Saint Patrick Residence, Naperville. He was 91 years of age.

Abbot David was a native Auroran, born and raised in Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish. He attended Our Lady of Good Counsel Grade School and was a freshman at Marmion Military Academy in 1940. Deciding early in life to enter religious life and to pursue the priesthood, he completed high school at St. Meinrad Minor Seminary in 1944. He entered the Benedictine community of St. Meinrad in 1945 and professed his first vows in 1946, taking the religious name of Rene. In 1948 he received his Bachelor of Arts degree at St. Meinrad College. When Marmion Abbey was founded as an abbey in 1947, he was the youngest of the founding members who came from St. Meinrad Abbey. On September 17, 1949 he professed Solemn Vows as a Benedictine monk of Marmion Abbey. He studied Theology at St. Procopius Major Seminary and was ordained a priest on May 19, 1951.

From 1952 through 1971, Father Rene held a variety of responsibilities at Marmion Military Academy, Aurora, Illinois, both at its Lake Street (1951 – 1958) and Butterfield Road (1959-1971) campuses. He taught English, Latin,

Religion and French. He also served as librarian, dormitory prefect, Director of Admissions, Academic Dean (1967 -1969) and as Headmaster in 1970. In 1970 he decided to again use his baptismal name of David.

On November 26, 1971, he was elected as the third abbot of Marmion Abbey. He was blessed as abbot on March 21, 1972. Abbot David served Marmion Abbey as abbot for twenty years, until his resignation in December of 1991. During these years, he wisely guided the abbey through many important decisions including the building of the music area and Battaglia Center at the Academy (1986), overseeing the transition of Marmion's Guatemala mission from the town of Solola to the city of Quetzaltenango in 1991, and for his constant attention to the liturgy and monastic observance at the abbey.

After retirement as abbot, Abbot David continued to serve the Church and his community. From 1992 - 98 he served as a Director of Development for the Pontifical Liturgical Institute in Rome, and then as its Secretary-Treasurer from 1998-99. Returning to the abbey in 2000, he served the community as abbey librarian as well as in pastoral assistance at various Fox Valley Catholic parishes, especially at St. Patrick's Church in St. Charles, Illinois.

In 2013 Abbot David's health began to decline. Due to serious health issues he lived at St. Patrick's Residence in Naperville for the last five years of his life until his sudden death.

Abbot David was preceded in death by his parents, Edgar and Corinne (Quirin) Cyr, his brothers Donald, Raymond, Edgar and his sisters Paula and Lorette.. He is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Abbot David's body will be received by his monastic community and family on Tuesday, July 24, at Marmion Abbey at 4:00 P.M. Visitation will be from 4:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. in the Abbey Church at 850 Butterfield Road, Aurora,

Illinois. The Office of the Dead will be prayed at 6:30 P.M. Visitation will continue on Wednesday, July 25 from 9:00 A.M. until the Mass of Christian Burial which will be celebrated at 10:30 A.M. Burial will follow in the Marmion Abbey Cemetery. Arrangements were handled by The Daleiden Mortuary, 220 N. Lake Street, Aurora, IL. 60506. (630) 631-5500.

Please remember to sign the online guest book or leave condolences for the monastic community or Abbot David's family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions made to Marmion Abbey would be appreciated.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **24.** 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Marmion Abbey Church
850 Butterfield Rd
Aurora, IL 60502

Funeral Mass

JUL **25.** 10:30 AM (CT)

Marmion Abbey Church
850 Butterfield Rd
Aurora, IL 60502

Burial

JUL **25.** 11:30 AM (CT)

Marmion Abbey Cemetery
850 Butterfield Rd.
Aurora, IL 60502

Tribute Wall



“ *Thank you, dear Abbot for the blessings you brought to St. Patrick’s Residence by your faithfulness and humor you shared here! You are truly missed.*

Sr. Raphael Peregrine - July 24, 2018 at 07:27 AM