

Rev. James H. Lane

Father Lane was born on September 22, 1934 and raised in South Boston. He was the son of Herbert J. and Catherine (King) Lane and came from a family of seven children. He attended South Boston High School, graduating with the Class of 1952. Prior to entering St. John Seminary, he served in the US Army.

He was ordained on February 2, 1962 at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Norwood by the Most Rev. Jeremiah F. Minihan. He offered his first Mass on February 4 at St. Augustine Church in South Boston.

His first assignment was to St. Paul Parish in Dorchester (1962-1969).

In 1972, he was appointed chaplain to the Boston Police Department. Later in his career, he was chaplain of Roxbury Juvenile Court, Boston Police Emerald Society and the South Boston Irish American Society.

In 1969, he transferred to St. Brendan Parish. He succeeded as the fourth pastor on March 16, 1982. His pastorate ended on December 2, 1996.

Events during his pastorate included:

Archbishop Law offered his first Mass for the parishes in Vicariate II at St. Brendan Church on Friday evening, August 31, 1984.

A fire set by an arsonist in the early morning of April 20, 1990 damaged the sanctuary. A quick response from the fire department prevented more serious damage to the church. For a time, Mass was held in the lower hall.

From 1996 to 2001, Fr. Lane served at St. Augustine Parish in South Boston. Tall, friendly and cheerful, he is remembered by many as a wonderful priest devoted to the church and his parishioners.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of his ordination, Fr. Lane was Honored at a testimonial at the Boston Teacher's Union Hall on the evening of April 27, 2002. A Mass of Thanksgiving preceded the banquet at St. Augustine Church in South Boston.

He died on Saturday, July 28, 2007 at Marian Manor in South Boston. He was 72. His funeral Mass took place on Wednesday, August 1 at St. Brendan Church. Cardinal O'Malley, Bishop John P. Boles and Bishop Robert F. Hennessey attended. The eulogy was pronounced by Fr. Paul Rouse. Interment followed at New Calvary Cemetery in Boston.