



## Rev John J. Gibbons

March 13, 1932 - February 3, 2018

Rev. John J Gibbons III (Pastor Emeritus) died February 3, 2018 after a difficult year of declining health. Father John was the eldest child of John J Gibbons Jr and Agnes M. (Lyons). He is predeceased by his brother James, sister Judith and survived by his sister Mary G. McLoughlin. His ten nieces and nephews will miss his corny jokes, and his enjoyment in participating in many family occasions. Marie Metta and Kean J. Gibbons, niece and nephew, have been dedicated to Fr. John and provided him with every support they could to enhance his quality of life as he has required assistance. He is also survived by many great nieces and nephews.

Fr. John has performed weddings and christenings for family and friends too numerous to count. Mahon cousins alone number in the hundreds. Fr. John maintained close friendships with families in each of his parish assignments and valued the generosity and kindness shown to him.

Fr. John graduated from Good Counsel in Newark, Seton Hall Prep, attended Seton Hall University and Immaculate Conception Seminary. He was ordained on May 31, 1958 in Newark and said his first mass on 6/1/58 at St. Patrick Pro Cathedral in Newark, N.J. John was Parochial Vicar of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (merged) in Maplewood from June 19, 1958 till June 20, 1962. Divine Mercy Parish, Rahway from June 1962 till June 1963, then onto St. Andrew Parish (now#32), Bayonne from June 1963 till October 1970. From 1970 to June 1980, he was at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Cedar Grove and from June 1980 to Sept 1982 he was at Queen of Peace Parish in North Arlington. Father John became Pastor of Our lady of the Most Holy Rosary/St. Michael in Elizabeth in September of 1982 until September of 1985 where he went as Parochial Vicar to Nativity Parish in Midland Park till June of 1987. He was named Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Fairview in June 1987 until February 1, 1999 when he was sent as Pastor to St. Michael/St. Joseph Parish in Bayonne until he retired on July 1, 2003. John maintained an active lifestyle, with skiing, cycling, and skating his favorite pastimes. He earned the rank of Eagle Scout, worked on the ski patrol at Mountain Creek, was a bronze level USFSA judge, and looked forward to his yearly ski trip to Colorado with longtime priest friends.

After retirement, Fr. John assisted at Church of the Ascension in Bradley Beach, Church of the Assumption in New Egypt, and at Fort Dix.

Visitation will be held at the Church of the Ascension, 501 Brinley Ave, Bradley Beach, N.J. on Thursday February 8 from 4pm to 7pm (with a vigil service at 7:30 pm) and Friday February 9 from 9am until the funeral mass at 10am. Interment to follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, East Hanover, NJ. In lieu of flowers donations in his memory to: Priest Care and Retirement Endowment Fund, making checks payable to Archdiocese of Newark, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark, NJ 07104.

# Cemetery Details

## Gate of Heaven Cemetery-East Hanover

225 Ridgedale Avenue  
East Hanover, NJ

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 8. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Church of the Ascension  
501 Brinley Avenue  
Bradley Beach, NJ 07720

## Prayer Service

FEB 8. 7:30 PM (ET)

Church of the Ascension  
501 Brinley Avenue  
Bradley Beach, NJ 07720

## Visitation

FEB 9. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Ascension  
501 Brinley Avenue  
Bradley Beach, NJ 07720

## Funeral Mass

FEB 9. 10:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Ascension  
501 Brinley Avenue  
Bradley Beach, NJ 07720

# Tribute Wall

SW

“ *Father John Gibbons was a United States Figure Skating judge and spent countless hours assisting skaters on moving to the next level. He will be sorely missed.*

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**susan welsh** - February 14, 2018 at 10:15 AM



“ *I knew him from church of the assumption. He was a very nice person an he will be missed. I didn't even know he had passed till this evening since I havent been able to get to the parish for mass since I'm in Jackson right now an gone to the parish there since it is closer. He will truly be missed. RIP Fr. John till we meet in heaven. I always loved the homilys that u use to give. It always touched the heart. Shall keep u in prayers.*

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**George Mount** - February 14, 2018 at 12:02 AM

EB

“ *"Father John, A Great Man With A Wonderful Sense Of Humor"*

*One Saturday, after the evening mass at the Church of the Assumption in New Egypt, NJ, an elderly lady was standing in front of me talking to Fr. John. She asked Father why his sermons were always so short and to the point? Father, with a smile on his face, said I believe in the KISS Theory. The lady was quite confused and did not know what to say. Finally she said "Father have a good night".*

*Father knew I heard the conversation, shook my hand and smiled. We both had a hearty laugh. For those who don't know the theory, it stands for "Keep It Simple Stupid!" Father you were the best.*

*Ed Broda*

*Church of the Assumption*

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**Edward Broda** - February 12, 2018 at 06:42 PM

JK

“ John was my cousin. He was always there for me, my brothers and sisters (all eleven of us), and growing up with him was so much fun. ( He was a lot older but one would not know this if you knew John.) We were thrilled when he came to our house to visit, coming to the beach club with us, taking us skating, and going skiing with us. He took a special interest in us and what we were doing.

John married my husband Steve and me and made sure all went well with the wedding. He baptized all three of our children. He was such a wonderful cousin to all of my brothers and sisters, my nieces, my nephews, my mom, my grandmother, my father, the whole family. He was always there for us. He shared our good times, which were many, and our very sad times. He got us through everything and we will always be thankful for him.

John had enormous energy and lived life to the fullest and was such a great person who was truly a man of God. Thank you John for being such a great role model for all of us. We will miss your wonderful spirit, your love, and the care you gave to all of us. Say hi to Judy and Mom and Dad in heaven. We miss them too!  
Jeanette

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**Jeanette Krone** - February 08, 2018 at 07:50 PM

KJ

“ So saddened by the news. Always enjoyed his sense of humor and his soft spoken, laid back demeanor. Our sympathy to his family. He will be missed.  
The Jones Family - Keith, Kathy and Sons



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**Kathy Jones** - February 08, 2018 at 12:21 AM

GA

“ We were blessed to be part of Fr. John's ministry at Church of the Assumption. A humble man with the great ability to offer a simple but thoughtful reflection at each mass. God's grace to his family and may he rest peacefully in heaven. We will miss him.....

Gerry, Michele, Matthew, Aniela, and Zachary Adamski

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**Gerry and Michele Adamski** - February 07, 2018 at 11:54 PM

RS

“ *What a wonderful priest.....and man Fr. John was! Loved to listen to his little jokes and hear about his skiing trips.....he always looked forward to them. A very simple man who loved life.....and eating! Whenever Assumption Church had a get-together, and food was being served, Fr. John was there! We will miss him. Rest in peace Fr. John.*

*Deacon Ray and Joyce Staub, Church of the Assumption*

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**Ray and Joyce Staub** - February 07, 2018 at 09:29 PM

JT

“ *Fr. Gibbons was a friend of my family, first meeting when he was at St Andrew's in Bayonne. He concelebrated my parents 25th anniversary mass in 1975.*

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**jacqueline Rozman Thorn** - February 07, 2018 at 05:57 PM

LP

“ *So sorry to hear of Fr. John's passing. He was a great person and one of my Dads best friends! Rest In Peace Fr. John!*

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**Liz Stewart Pelkey** - February 07, 2018 at 05:20 PM

MG

“ *Heartfelt condolences to the family of Father John. He was a wonderful person and we miss his presence at the Church of the Assumption, New Egypt. We are grateful that our paths have crossed and better for having met him. May he rest in peace.*

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**Maggie Guzzardo** - February 07, 2018 at 11:29 AM

MT

“ *To Father John's Family  
First let me offer my sincere condolences. Father John and I were first cousins and soon after his ordination on Sept 6 1958, he married Doug and I.  
We were his first family wedding. He Baptized our first daughter Debbie in 1959 and our second daughter Cheryl in 1962. He also married both daughters and Baptized there children.  
I am so sorry I cannot attend his funeral but I send my love and prayers to you all.*

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**Mary-Ellen (Jackson) Tulper** - February 06, 2018 at 09:15 PM

DM

“ As a candidate for the Diaconate and eventually A’s a Deacon from Assumption Parish New Egypt, I was blessed to have as a mentor Fr John. He is such a wonderful example of what a minister of God should be. He took the time to offer me encouragement and fellowship. Fr John will forever be a role model for me to emulate. Requiescat in Pacem

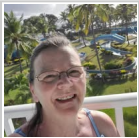
Deacon Anthony Mammoliti - February 06, 2018 at 04:08 PM

BH

“ Bongarzone Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Rev John J. Gibbons



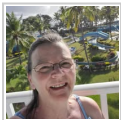
Bongarzone Funeral Home - February 06, 2018 at 02:46 PM



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Jo Drury - February 06, 2018 at 12:36 PM



Church of the Assumption Rosary Alter Society, Fr. John will always be in our hearts!

Jo Drury - February 07, 2018 at 09:52 AM

EL

I will always remember his gentle, yet firm ways of guiding us as a priest. I will miss him and pray for all priests... Living & deceased.

Eleanor Lasky - February 07, 2018 at 12:58 PM

PG

Loved Father John and will miss his humility and humor. Always liked to talk to him after Mass at Assumption. Rest in Peace, Father, you were a pleasure and will be missed.

Pauline Graff

Pauline Graff - February 09, 2018 at 12:48 PM

LO

“ *Very fond memories of Father Gibbons when he was at St. Andrew's Parish, Bayonne in the late 60's and early 70's. He was the moderator of the Girl Scouts and was very involved in all of our activities. He would come to our Scout Meetings to see what we were doing and to converse with the Scout Leaders. Annual outings to Seaside Heights and Ice Skating in West Orange were always great. Rest in Peace, Father Gibbons.*

*Linda Garritano-Orosz - Carteret, NJ*

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**Linda Orosz** - February 06, 2018 at 09:22 AM

WO

*Yes ; Fr. Gibbons was a priest of good virtue . I graduated St. Andrew's Grammar School of Bayonne in 1966.*

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**Warren O'Leary** - 4 hours ago

CV

“ *I looked forward to Father John's Mass at Church of the Assumption every other week. Not only was he a wonderful and loving priest, he was also such a a pleasure to talk with before Mass began. He will be missed. Rest easy, Father John.*

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**Carol Vineyard** - February 06, 2018 at 08:50 AM

BC

“ *Asking Father John at my Gatherings are you All right? He would say no I'm Half Left! Got me every time you will truly be missed.*

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**Bill Connell** - February 05, 2018 at 09:15 PM