



JOHN JOSEPH GALLAGHER (FR. JACK)

Born to eternal life on February 5, 2021.

On April 19, 1936, John Joseph Gallagher was born to Catherine Rogan and John Gallagher in Bayonne, New Jersey. He was the first of two children. His brother, Joseph was born in 1938.

In 1954 to 1959, Jack attended St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore, Maryland, from which he earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy. During the summers of 1957 and 1958, he was assigned to parishes in the Diocese of

Trenton, New Jersey and conducted summer catechetical schools. He then decided to discontinue his studies for the priesthood.

In 1959, he left home and enlisted in the U.S. Army. After completing his training, he was assigned to Bamberg, West Germany as an operations clerk. Later, he was transferred to Giessen, West Germany, where he managed an education center. His duties consisted of counseling, GED testing and teaching basic courses preparatory to testing. He traveled extensively while in Europe.

After discharge from the Army in August, 1962, he taught Latin, English and religion on the freshman and sophomore levels at Red Bank Catholic High School in his home town. He resigned from his teaching position in 1966 and began working for W and J Sloane, a new clearance store, where he became manager.

It was in 1973 while attending a charismatic renewal in his home area, that Jack experienced a deep conversion. He had stopped practicing his religion, and his faith had almost become that of an agnostic. He became active in the charismatic movement; attending prayer meetings, doing charitable work, visiting the sick in a nursing home, collecting and distributing food to the needy.

In March, 1977, he became associated with the Camillians and began theology studies in September. He made his temporary profession on August 27, 1978 and took his solemn profession vows on May 2, 1980. His priesthood ordination took place on June 14, 1981 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After his ordination he was assigned as Director of Vocation, Milwaukee, 1980 – 1983; Director of Formation, Milwaukee, 1980 – 1983; Director of Pastoral Care, Milwaukee, 1981 – 1983; Director of Associates, Milwaukee, 1981 – 1983; Director of Pastoral Care, Whitinsville, Massachusetts, 1983 – 1985; Chaplain, St. Camillus, Whitinsville, Massachusetts, 1985 to 2014; Chaplain, St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester, Massachusetts, 1985 to 2014.

Fr. Jack moved back to Milwaukee to retire in August, 2014 after living in Whitinsville, Massachusetts since 1983.

He spent his days painting, watching old movies and reminiscing. His health began to decline in 2020, and it was in January, 2021 that he was placed on hospice care.

Fr. Jack will be buried in the Camillian cemetery in Baraboo, Wisconsin on February 12, 2021.