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September 25th

**McHUGH, Fr Joseph**  
**1930-2007**



Fr Joseph McHugh (Joe) was born in Ahascragh, Ballinasloe, Co Galway on the 7 February, 1930. He completed his secondary school education in Blackrock College, 1944-9, after which he entered the novitiate in Kilshane. He was professed on 15 September 1950. Joe studied philosophy in Kimmage Manor and prefected in Blackrock between 1951 and 1953. After studying theology in Kimmage he was ordained to the priesthood on 13 July 1958 and made his Consecration to the Apostolate on 31 July, 1959.

Joe's first appointment was to the diocese of Onitsha, Nigeria in 1960, where he worked in pastoral ministry. During this time he had an hour long programme on the national radio station in Enugu. He remained there until the end of the Biafran war where he attended to nineteen prisoners in one day who faced execution and was with them until the end. Following this he was appointed to Papua, New Guinea where he worked in pastoral ministry from 1971 to 1974 and during his time there he also made three fund-raising trips to the United States.

Between 1974 and 1976 he ministered in Michigan. He also studied for a master's degree. The title of his thesis was *Mass Media and Public Morality* which was published and used as a text book in secondary schools in the U.S.A.

Fr Joe was appointed to Sierra Leone in 1976 where he became in charge of the communications network in the diocese of Kenema. In 1983 he was appointed to the promotions team in Kimmage. However following a stroke, he retired to Marian House, Kimmage Manor, where he died on 25 September, 2007.