

Reverend John J. "JJ" Rooney

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Rooney, Reverend John J. "JJ" ALBANY Reverend John J. "JJ" Rooney, 84, passed away on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at the Teresian House. Father Rooney was born on August 26, 1931, in Albany and was the son of the late Patrick F. and Delia (Kelly) Rooney. He served as pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Albany and Mary Immaculate in Watervliet. He was ordained May 26, 1962. He loved climbing mountains and running marathons. He received many medals and trophies for his accomplishments. He served as a reservist in the U.S. Navy and had a short career with Niagara Mohawk prior to joining the priesthood. During a sabbatical in Rome studying theology in 1986, Father met with Pope John Paul II during an audience. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Martin F. "Bud" Rooney and his wife Jane, Hugh P. Rooney, sisters, Anne Rooney, and Sr. Patrick Rooney, L.S.P. Father Rooney is survived by his sister-in-law Mary A. Rooney. He was Uncle "JJ" to several nieces, nephews, grand nieces and grand nephews. Father had several loyal friends, especially Louise Schrecongost. A Mass of Christian Burial

will be celebrated 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 23, 2016, at Sacred Heart Church, 33 Walter Street, Albany. Friends are invited to call preceding the Mass from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the church. Entombment will immediately follow the Mass at St. Agnes Cemetery in Menands. Memorial contributions may be made to Sacred Heart Church, 33 Walter St., Albany, NY 12204 in loving memory of Reverend John J. "JJ" Rooney. To leave a special message for the family online, visit NewcomerAlbany.com



To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our [Sympathy Store](#).

Published in Albany Times Union from Apr. 21 to Apr. 22, 2016.

MEMORIAL EVENTS

No memorial events are currently scheduled. To offer your sympathy during this difficult time, you can now have memorial trees planted in a National Forest in memory of your loved one.

Funeral services provided by

New Comer Cremations & Funerals

[343 New Karner Rd](#)

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MEMORIES & CONDOLENCES

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26 entries

April 29, 2016

So sorry to hear. He married my husband and I almost 27 yrs ago and I saw him several times at Our Lady of Hope - was a special man. Rest in Peace.

Kym Bond

April 28, 2016

To the family of Reverend John Rooney: please accept my deepest condolences!! Father John was always thinking of others and putting others first!! He was very humble and holy!! He saw JESUS in everyone and treated them that way!! May he Rest in Peace!! He was a true and faithful servant!!

Lou Christie

April 27, 2016

My sincere sympathy to Father "JJ's" family. I knew Fr. Rooney since both of us wore a younger man's clothes! I was Music Director of Sacred Heart for about a year & 1/2 ca 1973. I'll always remember JJ as a kind, caring priest & fine human being. He was a rock for the people of North Albany regardless of their faith, very much Christ to them. God be with you all.

April 24, 2016

To the Rooney family, so sorry to hear about Father Rooney's passing. Father is reunited with his parents, brothers, and sisters.

Mary Alice Van Auken

April 24, 2016

Father you were such a kind and gentle person. I too remember you from Scared Heart School.

May you RIP

Retha Williams-Brown

Retha Brown

April 23, 2016

We have known Father "JJ" Rooney ever since grade school at Sacred Heart of Albany, NY. My husband was his Altar Boy back in his grade school years and I was in the Church Choir years later. We will miss him terribly and will pray for all of you. May God grant his soul rest in peace. As your niece said, you were definitely a legend in your time.

May God keep you and all your family in His care. We truly loved him dearly.

George J. Sr. & Dorothy McKeon

April 23, 2016

Dearest Father Rooney, You were & always will be the epitome of what a catholic priest should be. You were always kind, understanding, insightful & so much more. You gave so much to so many in their time of need & sorrow. I remember in the early seventies being a alter boy & going around Albany caroling with you. May you rest in peace.

Mark F

April 22, 2016

Gardner

April 22, 2016

Fr. Rooney, You were such a wonderful pastor at our Sacred Heart Church, and everyone loved you. I have been a parishioner since I was baptized, & I am still there

Beverly (Dugan) Pach

April 22, 2016

I was privileged to live with Fr. Rooney at Our Lady Help of Christians in Albany along with the late Father Robert Roos. It was the happiest times of my priesthood, Jay was such a joy to share insights and laughter at the end of each day. A true friend and outstanding priest.

Rest in Peace. Jay.

Fr, Bob Hohenstein

April 22, 2016



RIP Father Rooney and God be with you, so many will miss you.

james Feisthamel

April 22, 2016

RIP Fr. Rooney.... I remember you going on hikes with all of us when we were young,, You would be coming down the Adirondack mountain and I would still be on the way up! And I remember how you jogged around Albany in your senior years... still moving faster than I could! You have earned a good rest.

Ann F. Ferenczy

April 22, 2016

Father Rooney: Your life was the definition of RC priest, Father I'll never forget how helpful you were to everyone in NA particularly those of us at School 20. In later years your words of wisdom at the YMCA were quite helpful to me personally. God bless and keep you JJ. Mike Carey

Mike Carey

April 22, 2016

I will always remember Father Rooney walking through our neighborhood (Broadway and Mohawk St) Just to say hello and to see if anyone wanted someone to pray with. He was very good to my family! Rest in peace!

~ Kathy O'Neill Finlan

Kathy O'Neill Finlan

April 22, 2016

rip rev.rooney

sheila canniff barnes

April 22, 2016

Rest in heavenly peace Father Rooney. You are fondly remembered from my religion classes at Mercy HS way back in the '60's.

Ann Y. Moot

April 22, 2016

I went to Sacred Heart school and church, I will never forget Father Rooney, May you rest in peace

Wanda Brown-Biggs

April 21, 2016

To my Uncle ...Father JJ Rooney...you devoted your entire life to serving others. I always had the upmost respect for you and never met a more intelligent individual. Thank you for watching over all of us over the years. Say hello to my dad, as well as Buddy, Anne and Sr. Patrick in heaven. Godspeed.

Paul Rooney

April 21, 2016

Father-you were a legend in your time, I was honored to be your niece. I very much enjoyed our conversations, your intelligence and wit will remain with me until we meet again. Your homilies were like no other. Say hello to my dad.

Lea Miller

April 21, 2016

Father Rooney, you were one I most loved seeing at Our Lady of Hope on Thursday nights while visiting and handing out our famous mint patties. You were also happy to see us. I loved your great big smile and felt very much welcome. May Jesus welcome you into Paradise with His words, "Well done good and faithful servant". May you rest in peace. My love and prayers for your immortal soul.

Mary Parker

April 21, 2016

I thought of you often, JJ. We had so many good memories playing as kids, especially at Burden Lake. The secrets the lake holds as we cousins enjoyed summers are many. RIP

Maryann Coyne-Dec

April 21, 2016

Mary and Family: We are very sorry for your loss.

Mike and Nancy McNulty & Family

April 21, 2016

Rest in peace Fr. Rooney. You taught the girls in religion class at Mercy High School how to think critically about important issues of the day, while always giving us something to laugh about. You were a wonderful teacher, mentor and friend to many of us at MHS.

Patti Campagna Kopach

April 21, 2016

Father Rooney, Sad day May you rest in peace. All the memories from Sacred Heart, with you there always helping, and a major part of all North Albany, you will be missed, we thank you. The O'Neill, McDonald, Nichols family.

Kathleen O'Neill-Perry

April 21, 2016

Fr. Rooney - an icon for the Sacred Heart Community. May he rest in peace...

Lynn Feisthamel Gardner and family

April 21, 2016

Father John, What a Good Man you were.you were so good to so Many.I know I will never forget you seeing my Dad in his final days...God Bless you Padre and May you RIP At the Right Hand Of Our Lord...

Paul Duclos

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Share to let others add their own memories and condolences



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