



**Fr. James Aloysius O'Brien,
S.J.**

April 7, 1927 - December 23, 2023

No obituary found for this tribute.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

JAN 3. 10:30 AM (ET)

Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier
13717 Cuba Road
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

Funeral Mass

JAN 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Michael's Church
1225 National Rd
Wheeling, WV

Tribute Wall

SM

“ I remember Father Jim visiting our home in the Philadelphia suburbs when I was just a little girl. My mom, Eileen Roebuck and Father Jim were first cousins and were born just a month apart. They lived across the street from each others families in West Philadelphia. My mom (who predeceased Father Jim in 2014) loved him dearly. We would all look forward to his visits (usually around the holidays when he could take time away from his beloved Wheeling College). I loved his distinctive calm voice, kind manner, and gentle nature. I loved the peace and serenity that just surrounded him and poured forth from him. Even at a very young age, I remember thinking that he was like a living saint! I have so many fond memories of him...I wish I could talk to him one more time! But I'm happy that he has been reunited with my mom and his parents and siblings...a joyful reunion!

Sheila McCarthy - January 19, 2024 at 11:25 AM

MP

“ Fr. O'Brien was indeed a gentle, kind man who exemplified what it means to be a Jesuit. What a joy it was to know him.

mary Lou Petrisko - January 09, 2024 at 12:57 AM

VR

“ A humble, gentle, brilliant soul who touched so many lives and left us better persons for knowing him. It's been over fifty years since I graduated from Wheeling College but his influence guides me every day. Thank you, Father O'Brien, for sharing your journey with us. Respectfully, Veronica Domsic Riffle, Wheeling College, Class of 1970.

Veronica Riffle - January 05, 2024 at 11:34 AM

BM

“ So many fond memories of Fr. Jimmy O’Brien! In 1972, Father was the moderator for the Spring “Gambol” show of “Mame”. We asked him if he would play a part and, in his usual humble manner, said that the show was for the students. It was only when we told him that he would have the role of a Bishop that he accepted. He said something to the effect” Well, that’s the only way that is ever going to happen”. In reminiscing about his wonderful legacy, I found a copy of the Spring/Summer 1993 issue of the Wheeling Jesuit College Chronicle containing a quote from Fr. Joseph Sanders:” Of all the Jesuits I’ve ever known, he is the embodiment of what it means to be a Jesuit.”

AMDG

Bill McPadden

Wheeling College 1972



Bill McPadden - January 01, 2024 at 03:50 PM

SP

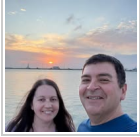
Bill McPadden,
Your words are bright and kind.
Thank you for the quote from Fr. Joseph Sanders regarding our Fr. Jim A.S. O’Brien.

Suzanne Antonelli Plesha - January 03, 2024 at 01:19 PM

JP

“ One of the finest people I've met in my lifetime. Love and caring poured out of Father O'Brien. Married us at WC 47 years ago. God did his best work when He made OB. Rest in peace Father. Anne and Jim "Rollo" Paul (class of '76)

James Paul - December 30, 2023 at 08:35 AM



“ He was a lovely man and exemplified what a priest should be. When I think of my time at WJU, I think of his smile, his kindness and compassion. Hope he rests in peace.

Nancy Raia - December 29, 2023 at 07:56 PM

RA

“ We will be forever grateful for having known Father O’Brien as an educator and living example of a true “Man for Others.” Every Wheeling memory starts with Father O’Brien and his amazing ability to remember all of his students. Whenever we visited the campus, Mary and I would look forward to seeing him. Thank you for creating so many wonderful memories for all of your students. Please pray for us as we continue our life’s journey.
Robby and Mary de Andrade (‘72)

Robby de Andrade - December 27, 2023 at 01:15 PM

SP

Thank you for labeling him a true ‘Man for Others’. You obviously knew him well.

Suzanne Antonelli Plesha - January 03, 2024 at 01:35 PM

LW

“ To All the O’Brien Families,
We Rejoice with you, and yet our hearts share the brokenness we feel deeply as Jimmy’O continues his journey. No one will ever take his place in our hearts. We love you all. With Gratitude and Love,
Keith and Linda LaCasse Wheeler (class of ‘72, WC)

Linda Wheeler - December 26, 2023 at 12:31 PM

JG

Father O'Brien was a true Soldier of the Lord. Father taught me how to be a Christian as I took one of his Theology Classes at Wheeling College (I was in the Class of 1974). He was an excellent teacher who challenged you in many different ways. He made you think and that enabled you to "do the right thing" both morally and ethically. My thoughts and prayers are with his family in this time of great loss. May Father rest in the arms of Jesus.

Joanne and John Giese, Class of 1974

John Giese - December 30, 2023 at 05:13 PM

SP

Said so well. You were fortunate to be his student. And as he would say ... he was fortunate to know you.

Suzanne Antonelli Plesha - January 03, 2024 at 01:37 PM