

From: Fr. Michael J. Lumpe
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2020 4:16 PM
Subject: Update Letter to Priests

My dear brother priests,

I hope and pray that you had a wonderful Easter Sunday celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. On this Monday in the Easter Octave we continue the celebration that the Lord has indeed risen and is very much alive.

First, I wanted to share with you some sad news that I received word today on the death of Fr. Eugene Linowski, who died this morning at 1:47 a.m. Fr. Eugene was a bi-ritual Priest of the Roman Rite (Franciscan) and a Priest of the Byzantine Rite who served for many years at Saint John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church here in Columbus. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, on April 25, 1930, Fr. Eugene would have been 90 years old on the 25th of this month. He was ordained to the Priesthood on June 1, 1957. He was a Priest for 62 years, 11 months, and 13 days. Due to the coronavirus, the Office of Christian Burial, according to the Byzantine Rite, will consist of a *Parastas* during Bright Week, and the Divine Funeral Liturgy. These services will take place at Saint John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Avenue. Attendance is restricted to no more than 10 people because of the virus. Let us all pray for the soul of this holy priest who for nearly 63 years labored for God's glory and for the salvation of souls. May Fr. Eugene rest in the peace of our Risen Savior. Amen.

Second, I am delighted to announce that one of our seminarians, Stephen Ondrey (Holy Name Parish, Columbus), will be ordained a transitional deacon this coming Wednesday, April 15, at Pope Saint John XXIII Seminary in Weston (Boston), Massachusetts. The Most Reverend Robert J. Hennessey, an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Boston, will ordain Stephen and others in formation at the seminary. Please join me congratulating Stephen on this major step and in prayer that he will continue to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Click on this link for a biography of Stephen: <https://psjs.edu/users/sondrey> .

In closing, on this Easter Monday, let us reflect on the words to the *Hymn to the Light* from Saint Ephrem the Syrian:

The Light of the just and joy of the upright is Christ Jesus our Lord.
Begotten of the Father, He manifested himself to us.
He came to rescue us from darkness and to fill us with the radiance of His light.
Day is dawning upon us; the power of darkness is fading away.
From the true Light there arises for us the light which illumines our darkened eyes.
His glory shines upon the world and enlightens the very depths of the abyss.
Death is annihilated, night has vanished, and the gates of Sheol are broken.
Creatures lying in darkness from ancient times are clothed in light.

The dead arise from the dust and sing because they have a Savior.
He brings salvation and grants us life. He ascends to his Father on high.
He will return in glorious splendor and shed His light on those gazing upon Him.

Our King comes in majestic glory.

Let us light our lamps and go forth to meet Him.
Let us find our joy in Him, for He has found joy in us.
He will indeed rejoice us with His marvelous light.
Let us glorify the majesty of the Son and give thanks to the almighty Father
Who, in an outpouring of love, sent Him to us, to fill us with hope and salvation.
When He manifests Himself, the *saints awaiting* Him in weariness and sorrow,
will go forth to meet Him with lighted lamps.
The angels and guardians of heaven will rejoice
in the glory of the just and upright people of earth;
Together crowned with victory,
they will sing hymns and psalms.
Stand up then and be ready!
Give thanks to our King and Savior,
Who will come in great glory to gladden us
with His marvelous light in His kingdom.

Fraternally,

Bishop Brennan