



## Fr. Michael Greb, OFM Cap.

August 8, 1958 - October 26, 2023

Fr. Michael Greb, OFM Cap., died on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at UPMC Shadyside Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA. He was 65.

One of seven children, Michael was born to Ralph and Dorothy (Koeper) Greb on August 8, 1958, in Pittsburgh. He attended St. Anne parish elementary school and Keystone Oaks High School.

Michael began seminary studies for the Diocese of Pittsburgh at Duquesne University for his undergraduate degree. He transferred to Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, OH, for two years of theological studies.

In 1982 Michael pursued his vocation to become a Capuchin friar. He was accepted as a postulant and was subsequently invested with the Capuchin habit. He professed temporary vows in 1985 and during the next four years made perpetual profession, attained his Master's degree in theology at the Catholic University of America, and was ordained a deacon.

He was ordained to the priesthood on July 22, 1989. Fr. Michael's first priestly assignment was at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Conway, PA.

Fr. Mike was named vocation director for the Capuchins in 1995, a position he held for two years.

From 1997 to 2003 Fr. Mike ministered in three different parishes in the Diocese of Pittsburgh: St. Wendelin Parish in Butler County, St. Clare of Assisi Parish in Clairton, and St. Joseph Parish in Cabot.

In 2003 Fr. Mike moved to Wheeling, WV, to serve as associate director of Paul VI Pastoral Center.

From 2007 to 2008 he served on the North American Capuchin novitiate staff in Burlington, WI.

Fr. Mike was pastor of St. Cecelia Parish in Rochester, PA, and St. Felix Parish in Freedom, PA, from 2008 to 2010, when he was transferred to Our Lady of the Angels Parish in Pittsburgh to serve as parochial vicar and chaplain at West Penn Hospital for three years.

In 2013 he was named chaplain of McGuire Memorial in New Brighton, PA. and remained in this assignment for ten years.

With deteriorating health, Fr. Mike was transferred to St. Augustine Friary in May 2023 for medical attention and care.

Fr. Mike was a Pittsburgher at heart and an avid fan of its sports teams. His favorite teams were the Pirates, Steelers or Penguins, depending on who was playing at the moment.

He loved his ministry at McGuire Memorial and had great affection for the disabled and the people who served them. Fr. Mike often remarked it was his favorite assignment.

He was an energetic preacher and eagerly shared the Catholic faith with

others. He was a devout Capuchin friar and zealous priest. Fr. Mike made several spiritual pilgrimages abroad and served as spiritual mentor for many men and women, young and old.

Even as he endured numerous medical challenges, Fr. Mike remained characteristically joyful and faithful. He made friends generously and easily; he enjoyed conversation, avoiding personal criticism and negativity while stating his views without reluctance. Fr. Mike was a man of conviction.

Fr. Mike was preceded in death by his parents, and leaves to mourn three brothers and three sisters: James (Karen), Mary Ann Lecci (Donald), Paul (Susan), Edward (Susan), Elizabeth Sandhagen (Harrold), and Jennifer, and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be on Monday, 30 October 2023, from 7PM to 8PM, followed by a Wake Service in St. Margaret of Cortona Chapel, St. Augustine Friary, 221 36th Street, Pittsburgh, PA.

Visitation will also be on Tuesday, 31 October 2023, at 9AM, followed by the Mass of Christian Burial at 9:30AM in St. Augustine Church of Our Lady of the Angels Parish, 37th Street and Bandera, Pittsburgh.

Interment will immediately follow at St. Augustine Cemetery, Friars' Plot, Pittsburgh, PA.

Professional services are provided by D'Alessandro Funeral Home & Crematory Ltd., (Pittsburgh).

Memorial donations may be made to the Capuchin Friars of the Province of St. Augustine (220 37th Street, Pittsburgh PA 15201).



# Cemetery Details

## St Augustine Cemetery

Pittsburgh, PA 15209

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **30**. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

St. Margaret of Cortona Chapel, St. Augustine Friary  
Pittsburgh, PA 15201

## Mass

OCT **31**. 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Pio of Pietrelcina, St. Augustine Church  
225 37th St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15201

# Tribute Wall

PS

“ I WAS A CLASSMATE OF FATHER MIKE'S AT ST. PAUL SEMINARY. HE PERFORMED THE WEDDING CEREMONY FOR MY CLOSEST FRIEND TERRI AND HER HUSBAND TONY AT OUR LADY OF PEACE, CONWAY PA. I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER HIS KINDNESS AND GENTLE SPIRIT.

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**PAUL JOHN SENULES** - November 24, 2024 at 01:52 AM

JS

“ I meet Mike Greb when I moved to Capuchin College in 1987. During those 2 years with him, he made an impact on my life. He was an honest, sincere, loving, and spiritual man. He loved what he did, he loved life and loved the Lord. I am a better person for having known him. I was saddened to hear of his transition to the more perfect world, but I am certain he was greeted there by our Lord who stated, "Well done my good and faithful servant!"

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**John Stabeno** - November 24, 2023 at 04:21 AM

FS

“ I was the Spiritual Director at the Josephinum School of Theology when Mike was there. He always seemed to me to be a person of high ideals. It saddens me to hear of his death. Fr. Anthony Shonis, Owensboro, Ky.

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**Fr Anthony Shonis** - November 21, 2023 at 10:51 AM

DO

“ Donna Buczynski O.F.S. lit a candle in memory of Fr. Michael Greb, OFM Cap.



Donna Buczynski O.F.S. - November 04, 2023 at 09:11 PM

DO

Fr. Mike has been our Spiritual Director of the Alverno Fraternity for a long time, even when he was ill, he brought his tank with him, If we had a day of reflection, he would say mass first - give us his time, talk, and eat with us and when his tank was low - he would leave to go back to the friary. We missed him when he had to go to Lawrenceville - we prayed for him until his death. It was a REAL shock to me, I was hoping he would get better, not have to worry about the tank, and come back as our Spiritual Assistant! I'll continue to pray until we meet again.

Donna Buczynski O.F.S. - November 04, 2023 at 09:45 PM

MD

“ I had the great privilege of first meeting Fr Mike a couple years ago. I was greatly struck by his gentleness and wisdom. He always had something kind and positive to share regardless of the situation. He's an inspiration to all who knew him. May his name be a blessing!

Michael Deelo - November 02, 2023 at 08:20 PM

MG

“ I met Fr. Mike through my daughter many years ago. We kept in touch periodically. We share the same name. May our Lord Jesus Christ welcome him into His loving arms.  
Michael Greb

Michael Greb - October 31, 2023 at 09:46 PM

ME

“ *Fr. Mike outside of Saint Cecilia in May of 2016 with the ever present Pirate hat. Thanks for everything, my friend.*



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**Matthew Eckert** - October 30, 2023 at 09:47 PM

JR

“ *May He Rest In Peace.*



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**Joseph Rozman** - October 30, 2023 at 08:26 PM

MD

“*Father Mike was a kind and gentle soul who came in to our lives ten years ago, when he was named the Chaplain at McGuire Memorial in New Brighton, PA, where our son Mark has resided since 1989. He immediately made an indelible impact on McGuire and its' residents, staff, and families, including our family. We looked forward to Father Mike's sermons at Sunday Mass at McGuire, which he always made relevant to all that was happening in our world and in our society. Father Mike also had the gift of storytelling on so many subjects. He especially liked to talk about his hero, Roberto Clemente and his selfless acts of kindness throughout his life. It was not beyond us that some of that kindness, sprinkled with compassion and humility, rubbed off on Father Mike, as displayed in how he lived his life. He loved our son Mark unconditionally, just as he did all the residents at McGuire. He always got Mark's attention when it was time to receive Holy Communion by approaching him and emphatically addressing him as "Marcus!". Mark would immediately sit up, even if he had been sleeping. Father Mike would then smile and say "I love him". He loves you too, Father Mike. We love you too! Rest In Peace.*

*Mark and Susan Deitrick*

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**Mark and Susan Deitrick** - October 30, 2023 at 07:21 PM

JM

“ I’m not sure how to put into words how important this kind, loving compassionate man, Fr. Mike, was to so many people. I was blessed to have known him for many years and to call him a friend. I was so nervous to ask him to marry my husband and I. Fr. Mike accepted the invitation with pride. He was able to show my husband our catholic faith, while also accepting and sharing his Presbyterian faith. As time went on, Fr. Mike’s health declined. However, he was determined to marry us. He stated that weddings brought him so much joy, and he would like our wedding to be his last. I’m truly blessed he was able to join us in marriage this past May. I will never forget his words, I will never forget his kindness, I will never forget his love of God. We will miss you, Fr. Mike. Heaven gained a very special angel.



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**Janelle Marshall** - October 30, 2023 at 11:34 AM

VP

“ Thank you God for allowing all of to share Fr. Mike, He truly was a special person. He gave of himself so freely. Father loved his McGuire family and was always there when he needed him. He always knew the right thing to say. He personally helped my husband and I when we last our son. Earth has lost an angel but heaven gained a saint. Love and miss you already. May you rest in peace.  
Your family is in our prayers!  
Mike and Vicki Platko

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**Vicki platko** - October 30, 2023 at 09:56 AM

FH

“ Fr. Mike and I were in college seminary together when he was studying for the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He was two years ahead of me, and he was a tremendous influence on me when I was a freshman. I will offer a Mass for his soul, and it comes with a great deal of gratitude for his friendship and guidance.

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**Fr. John E. Hissrich** - October 30, 2023 at 06:23 AM

ST

“ I had the privilege of working with Fr. Mike at McGuire Memorial for most of his tenure there. He considered the individuals at McGuire as his parishioners and was very proud and humbled to minister to them. Fr. Mike had a great relationship with our employees as well. His door was open to everyone who needed him. I know that he is with our Entrusted Treasures who he loved. He would often say that he learned more and received more from them that he could ever give. McGuire has been blessed with the presence of the Capuchin Friars for nearly 30 years. Fr. Michael Greb will always be remembered for his smile, his words of kindness and his love of all who crossed his path.  
Rest in peace, Fr. Mike  
Sister Thaddeus, CSSF

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**Sister Thaddeus** - October 29, 2023 at 04:18 PM



“ Jen

*This man has been a part of my life since I was five. The memories I have will hold place in my heart forever. He married my husband and I, baptized and gave our three children their first holy communion. He was there for it all and he will continue to be on our shoulders for every moment as our angel. Love, JNM*



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**Jennifer Bradel** - October 29, 2023 at 03:48 PM

JR

“ *Heaven got another angel. Fr. Mike was such a humble and caring priest. His sermons always had a real meaning and a lesson on being a Christian. My family and I always loved Fr. Mike and always will. I remember when Rev Wendel Moliski passed away and I told Fr. Mike how sadden I was, Fr. Mike said to me be happy John because Rev. Wendel Moliski went to Heaven and is with Jesus. Now I know that Fr. Mike is in Heaven with Jesus .We will see you again Fr. Mike in Heaven. Our sincere sympathy's to Fr. Mike's family. John Ricchuito and Family*

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**John Ricchuito** - October 29, 2023 at 02:58 PM

BS

“ Fr. Michael taught me and my wife Ginny about "Needless Distress" in the recital of the Our Father.

God Bless you Mike.

I know Ginny has already welcomed you to Heaven.

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**Bill Sinclair** - October 29, 2023 at 01:28 PM

JE

“ Fr. Mike,

You were truly the epitome of a wonderful human being. Thank you. Thank you for loving us, loving our kids, being an incredible listener, great advice giver, amazing storyteller. Our hearts are shattered, but you are with the Lord... whole and healed... where you've waited your whole life to be. There will forever be a hole in our hearts, but we know you'll always be with us somehow. With gratitude, forever... Jess



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**Jessica** - October 29, 2023 at 12:02 PM

JC

“ *Fr. Mike was a wonderful priest. He spread joy and holiness to all who knew him. His joy and love was demonstrated in his homilies. He was a companion to the children, a comfort to those in need, and a true friend to all whom he served as a compassionate priest. He listened, he loved, he projected God’s words as a vibrant preacher. May he be singing with the angels and saints in Heaven.*  
*From Josie Reed*

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**Josie Reed, member of St, Cecilia Church** - October 28, 2023 at 12:42 PM

KM

“ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ *Vjecnaja Pamjat* 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ *Welcome Home My Beloved Michael And Priest.*  
*Pocivaj V Miru* 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️  
*MEDJUGORJE FOREVER*



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**Kassandra Marija Milost** - October 28, 2023 at 05:40 AM

PH

*My most sincerest sympathy for your loss of Fr. Mike. He was an inspiration to my husband and me when he was at Our Lady of Peace Church in Conway, PA. He conducted the RCIA class when I and my husband attended before my husband converted to Catholicism. I am saddened.*

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**Pat Harmon** - October 28, 2023 at 10:31 AM

LB

*Fr Mike gave me such inspiration when my children were young,he explained in his seroms how much he loved his lord,his sermons were so meaningful it made me cry.Im sure God was waiting for him at the gates of heaven.*

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**Laurene Brawdy** - October 28, 2023 at 12:32 PM