

Rev. Mark Michael Catalana

July 15, 1963 - May 2, 2013

Resident of San Jose

Saint Joseph's College, 1986

Father Mark Catalana, pastor of Saint Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church in San Jose, passed away on Thursday of complications following his recent surgery for injuries sustained in an accident. Father Mark touched many lives with his tremendous goodness and deep faith. He died doing one of the things he loved most, cycling around the valley using it for prayer time—praying the rosary and listening to music.



Mark Michael Catalana was born in San Jose, CA on July 15, 1963, one of seven children of Frank (deceased) and Wanda Catalana. He graduated from Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception School, Los Gatos, in 1978 and Saint Francis High School, Mountain View, in 1982. He was a graduate of Saint Joseph College Seminary, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy. After attending Saint Patrick's Seminary and University, where he obtained a Master of Divinity Degree and a Master's Degree in Theology, Bishop Pierre DuMaine ordained Father Catalana on May 18, 1991, at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph.

Father Mark's assignments in the Diocese of San Jose were as Parochial Vicar at Saint Lucy Parish, Campbell, and Saint Joseph of Cupertino Parish, Cupertino. For ten years, he served as Diocesan Director of Vocations. On July 1, 2010, he became Pastor of Saint Thomas of Canterbury Parish, San Jose.

Father Mark will be remembered for his love for the Church, his generosity, and his dedication to the work of fostering priestly vocations. Many of the priests currently serving in the Diocese of San Jose found great encouragement in Father Catalana's ministry in the Office of Vocations.

Father Mark was preceded in death by his sister Marya Evans (Washington). He is survived by his loving mother, Wanda Catalana, siblings Peter Catalana of Los Banos, Joseph Catalana of San Jose, Anna Catalana of Los Gatos, Nancy Catalana Polizzi of Gilroy, and John Catalana (Pina) of San Jose, and nieces and nephews Laura Evans, Jennifer Evans, Andrew Evans, Michael Polizzi, Christopher Polizzi, Sandra Catalana, Edison Catalana, and John Phillip Catalana, and his great nephew Zachary Evans.

Visitation and a vigil prayer service will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 7pm, and the mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at 10 am with a reception to follow immediately after mass. Both the vigil and the mass will be held at

Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception, 219 Bean Avenue in Los Gatos. Interment will be private. Donations may be made in his name to Saint Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church, 1522 McCoy Ave., San Jose, CA 95130 or Food for the Poor, Inc., 6401 Lyons Rd., Dept. 9662, Coconut Creek, Florida 33071 or Birthright of San Jose, 2071-A Alameda Way, San Jose, CA 95126.

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From the Diocese of San Jose.....

Remembering Father Mark Catalana, late Pastor of Saint Thomas of Canterbury Parish

Father Mark Catalana died this morning, May 2, 2013, of an apparent heart attack, following his recent surgery for injuries sustained in an accident.

Mark Michael Catalana was born in San Jose on July 15, 1963, one of seven children of Frank (deceased) and Wanda Catalana. He graduated from Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception School, Los Gatos, in 1978 and Saint Francis High School, Mountain View, in 1982. He was a graduate of Saint Joseph College Seminary, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy. After attending Saint Patrick's Seminary and University, where he obtained a Master of Divinity Degree and a Master's Degree in Theology, Bishop Pierre DuMaine ordained Father Catalana on May 18, 1991, at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph.

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<http://www.dsj.org/news-events/previous-posts/remembering-father-mark-catalana-late-pastor-of-saint-thomas-of-canterbur>