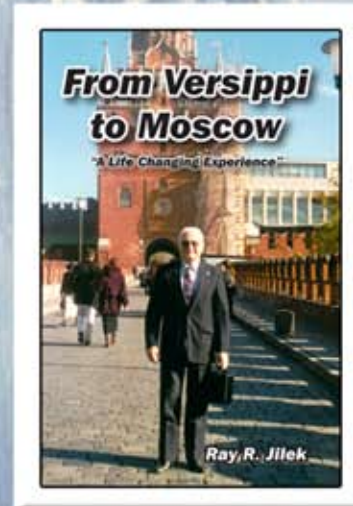
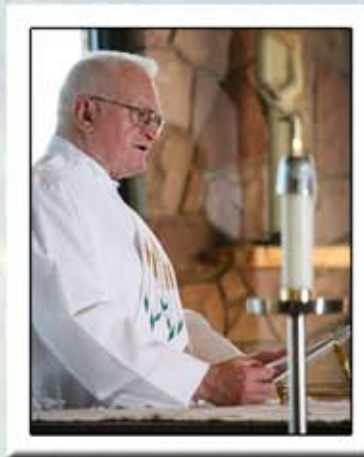
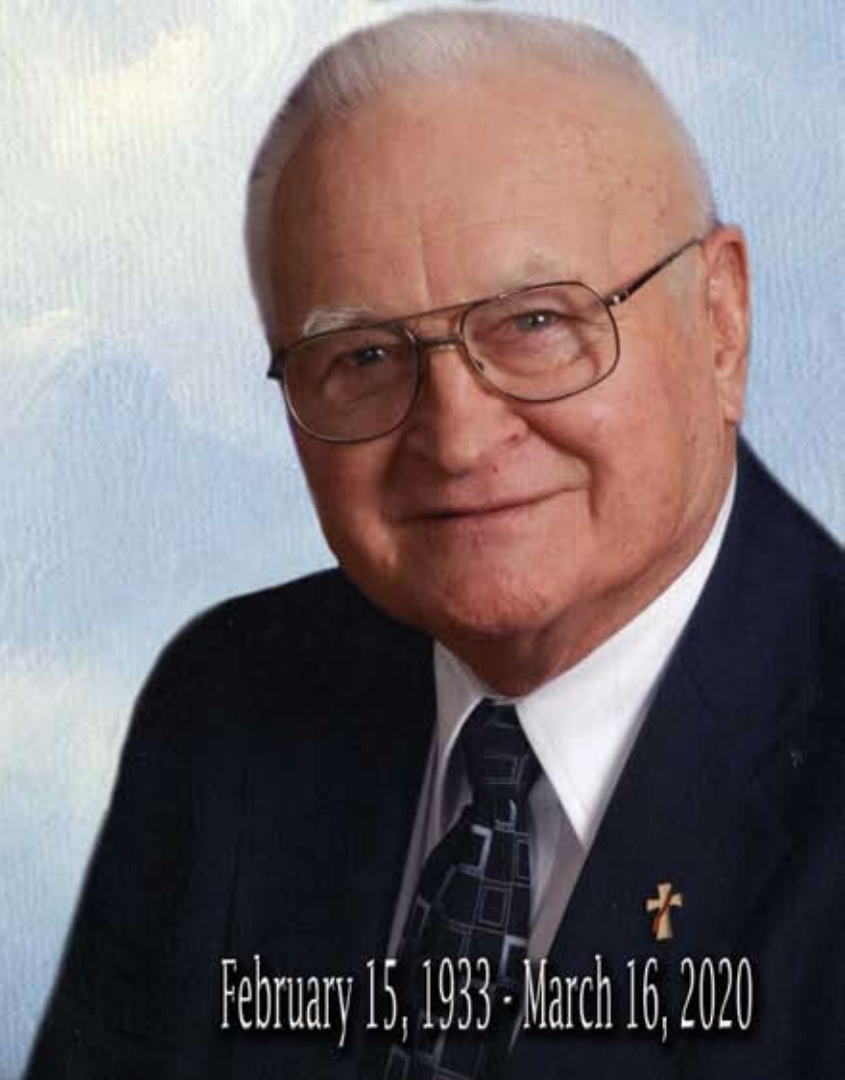


*Raymond Robert* was born in Stark County on February 15, 1933, the son of Joe and Hattie (Jablonsky) Jilek. As a young boy, he attended Versippi School and later took correspondence classes through NDSU and received his high school diploma. "With God's blessing, he married the most wonderful girl in the world," Kathryn Roshau, on November 5, 1952 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Dickinson. Their marriage was blessed with five children: Wanda, Randy, Raymond, Joyce and Ryan. Together they raised their family east of Dickinson, developing their farm, ranch and feedlot for over 43 years. In 1995, they moved to town where Ray designed and built his last home, which is still the family home today. Ray began his development career in residential and commercial construction, which took him to three states. He was hired by the Dickinson Development Corporation (currently Stark Development Corporation), and began helping business start-ups for several years. Ray then ventured out to start Ray Jilek & Associates, through the early 1980's, where he helped and consulted for businesses in state and internationally. Notably, his travels throughout Russia and Siberia as a consultant brought him to write a book titled "From Versippi to Moscow." He was an active pillar in the state and Dickinson community, serving on numerous Co-ops, Rural Electrics, and church boards. In August of 1999, Ray completed a three-year study and was ordained a Catholic Deacon. He always stated, "I tried to give back to God for all His many blessings." Ray inspired each of his children to start and own their own businesses. He was a pivotal role model and teacher for his family, always being there for them. Upon giving his children life and business advice, he sent them off with "a wink, a hug and a prayer." Ray is survived by his wife and lifetime partner of 67 years, Kathryn; sons, Randy (Elaine), Raymond (Laura), Ryan (Kelley); daughters, Wanda Ford, Joyce (Rick) Jilek-Donaldson; 24 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joe and Hattie Jilek; son-in-law, Michael D. Ford; and sister, Della (Victor) Kadrmas. In lieu of flowers, contributions honoring Ray's life can be made at one or more of the following: Trinity Catholic Schools, 810 Empire Road, Dickinson, ND 58601; St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, 523 Third St. East, Dickinson, ND 58601; The Seminarian Fund through the Diocese of Bismarck at: Diocese of Bismarck, Attn: Vocations, 520 N. Washington St., Bismarck, ND 58501



# *In Loving Memory* Deacon Ray Jilek



February 15, 1933 - March 16, 2020





#### SAFELY HOME

I am home in heaven, dear ones;  
Oh so happy and so bright  
There is perfect joy and beauty!  
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,  
Every restless tossing passed;  
I am now at peace for ever,  
Safely home in heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly  
Trode the valley of the shade?  
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined  
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me  
In that way so hard to tread;  
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,  
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,  
For I love you dearly still;  
Try to look beyond death's shadows  
Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you  
So you must not idly stand;  
Do it now, while life remaineth  
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,  
He will gently call you home;  
Oh, the rapture of the meeting,  
Oh, the joy to see you come!



# Ray Jilek

#### **FUNERAL MASS:**

Thursday, March 19 2020 9:30 a.m.  
St. Wenceslaus Church  
Dickinson, North Dakota

#### **ROSARY & VIGIL SERVICE:**

Wednesday, March 18, 2020 6:00 p.m.  
Stevenson Funeral Home  
Dickinson, North Dakota  
Deacon Bob Stockert

#### **CELEBRATING:**

Monsignor Patrick Schumacher  
Deacon Bob Stockert & Deacon Bob Zent

#### **MUSIC:**

Pianist- Priscilla Keogh  
Dinah Eslinger  
Madison, Allison & Sophia Jilek

#### **READER:**

Kelley & Laura Jilek

#### **GIFT BEARERS:**

Ray's Family

#### **PALLBEARERS:**

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Chip Ford          | Kathryn Ford  |
| Madison Jilek      | Allison Jilek |
| Jeremiah Donaldson | Sophia Jilek  |

#### **HONORARY PALLBEARERS:**

Ray's Great-Grandchildren & Deacon Brothers

#### **INTERMENT:**

St. Wenceslaus Cemetery  
Dickinson, North Dakota

#### **ARRANGEMENTS BY:**

Stevenson Funeral Home  
Dickinson, North Dakota

*Lunch will be served at the church following  
the graveside service. Everyone is welcome.*