

# ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH

DARIEN, CONNECTICUT



A MEMORIAL MASS  
CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND MINISTRY  
OF  
**MONSIGNOR EDWARD J. HOWLEY**  
*October 13, 1922 - June 6, 2012*

---

**The Reverend Paul G. Murphy, *Celebrant***  
**The Reverend Nick Punch, O.P., *Homilist***

SATURDAY · JULY 28, 2012 · 10:30AM



# Monsignor Edward J. Howley

---

Edward Joseph Howley was born on October 13, 1922, in New Britain, which is in Hartford County, Connecticut. Edward's parents were Patrick and Mary Lynch Howley. He was baptized at Saint Joseph Church. His Godparents were his uncle, Edward Howley, and aunt, Genevieve Lynch. Warren Harding was President of the United States. Pius XI was Pope. There were three older children: Mary, Daniel, and Claire. Two more children were born after Edward: Francis and Patricia. Edward's father Patrick Howley was a policeman and builder. Edward Howley went to St. Joseph's Parochial School in New Britain, just a few doors down from where he lived. The school was staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery. Following graduation from elementary school in 1935, Edward decided to study for the priesthood and attended St. Thomas

Seminary in Bloomfield, Connecticut, the minor seminary for the Diocese of Hartford. After six years at St. Thomas, he went on for six more years to the major seminary of St. Mary's in Baltimore, Maryland. Founded in 1791, St. Mary's Seminary was the first Catholic seminary established in the United States. St. Mary's was founded and is still operated by the Sulpician Fathers, a community of diocesan priests dedicated to the formation of priests. In place of his sixth year in the major seminary, 1946-47, Edward was prefect of discipline back at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield.

**Ordination 1947** - Edward J. Howley was ordained a priest on May 15, 1947, by Bishop Henry J. O'Brien at St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford. His brother, Francis P. Howley, a student at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, was master of ceremonies at Fr. Howley's first solemn high Mass at St. Joseph's Church in New Britain – the church where he was baptized.

**St. Mary Church, Stamford, 1947 to 1954** - Following ordination in 1947, Bishop O'Brien gave Father Howley his first assignment, Assistant Pastor at St. Mary's Parish in Stamford.

**St. Mary Church, Bethel, 1954 to 1960** - In 1954, Bishop Shehan transferred Fr. Howley to St. Mary's Parish in Bethel, where he served as Assistant Pastor and then Administrator. Fr. Howley was charged with the responsibility of building a school. Actress Barbara Britton, a Methodist, donated 10 acres of land on Dodgingtown Road, where the school was built.

**St. Joseph Church, Norwalk, 1960 to 1966** - In 1960, Bishop Shehan transferred Fr. Howley to St. Joseph Parish in Norwalk, as Administrator. During this time, Fr. Howley received a Master's degree in Education at Fairfield University. He also served at the university as a lecturer in Education.

**St. Thomas More Church, Darien, 1966 to 1997** - A new parish was created. Originally the home of St. John's Parochial School, the property which included the school, a rectory and convent, became St. Thomas More Parish. Fr. Howley was assigned as Pastor. His accomplishments included construction of the new church, the parish's first RCIA classes and a ministerial youth group. In 1968, Fr. Howley started a Children's Mass on Sunday, which continues to this day. Young children are involved through simple music, serving as altar boys and girls and readers. Fr. Howley remained there as pastor for 31 years.

**Msrgr. Howley Retires in 1997** - The year 1997 was a significant year for Fr. Howley. On April 26, Fr. Howley was made a Monsignor. The honor was bestowed by Pope John Paul II and conferred by Bishop Edward M. Egan. On May 15, Msrgr. Howley celebrated his Golden Anniversary of 50 years as a priest. On October 13, Msrgr. Howley celebrated his 75th birthday and retired. All parishioners were invited to a party celebrating his retirement at the Italian Center in Stamford. He had been a priest for 50 years, 31 of those as pastor of St. Thomas More Church in Darien, Connecticut.

**Retirement** - Msrgr. Howley spent the last 10 years of his retirement years at The Brookside Bluff Retirement Village in Zolfo Springs, FL. He suffered a stroke in the fall of 2011 and his health gradually declined. On May 15, 2012, he celebrated his 65th Anniversary of faithful service to God as a priest. He departed this life on June 6, 2012 at the Tidewell Hospice House in Arcadia FL.



## THE ORDER OF MASS

PRELUDE

Galen Tate, *Organ*  
John Hanulik, *Oboe*

### INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

*Morning Has Broken*  
Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931 (Lam. 3:22-23)  
Music: Traditional Gaelic melody

1. Morn - ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has  
2. Sweet the rain's new fall, Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first  
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the

1. spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
2. dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness Of the wet  
3. one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, Praise ev - 'ry

1. morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!  
2. gar - den, Sprung in com - plete - ness Where his feet pass.  
3. morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

GREETING

*Priest:* In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
*Assembly:* **Amen.**  
*Priest:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
*Assembly:* **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL RITE

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
*And, striking their breast, they say:*  
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;  
*then they continue:*  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

**Deutsche Messe**  
Franz Peter Schubert, 1797-1828

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have  
mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have  
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have  
mer - cy, have mer - cy.

OPENING PRAYER

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

FIRST READING

Wisdom 3:1-9

PSALM 23

Marty Haugen, 1950

Refrain  
Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-yond my fears, from  
1-3, 5, Final to Vss 1-3, 5 4 to Verse 4  
death in - to life. Fine life.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:14-23

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Celtic Alleluia**  
Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING

John 14:1-6

HOMILY

The Reverend Nick Punch, O.P.

THE GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## OFFERTORY PROCESSION

## OFFERTORY MOTET

### *Ave Verum Corpus*

Text: unknown

Music: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1756-1791

*Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, who having truly suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for mankind, whose pierced side flowed with water and blood: May it be for us a foretaste of the Heavenly banquet in the trial of death. Oh sweet Jesus, Oh pious Jesus, Oh Jesus, son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.*

## PREFACE DIALOGUE

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you  
**Assembly:** **And with your spirit.**  
**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.  
**Assembly:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**Assembly:** **It is right and just.**

## HOLY

### *Deutsche Messe*

Schubert

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of  
hosts. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly  
, Lord God of hosts. Heav - en and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



MYSTERY OF FAITH

Save us, Sav - ior of the world, Sav - ior of the  
 world, for by your Cross and Res - ur - rec - tion  
 you have set us free, you have set us free.

AMEN

A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sins of the world, have mer - cy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sins of the world, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

*I Am the Bread of Life*

Text: John 6

Music: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, 1927

Refrain  
 And I will raise \_\_\_ you up, and I will raise \_\_\_ you  
 Yo los re - su - ci - ta - ré, Yo los re - su - ci - ta -  
 up, and I will raise \_\_\_ you up on the last day.  
 ré, Yo los re - su - ci - ta - ré en el dí - a fi - nal.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

*On Eagles Wings*

Text: Psalm 91

Music: Michael Joncas, 1951; arr. Mark Hayes

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CONCLUDING RITES

INVITATION TO PRAYER

SONG OF FAREWELL

**O Loving God**

Text: Paulette M. McCoy, 1953

Music: LONDONDERRY AIR; fr. *The Ancient Music of Ireland*, 1855

FINAL BLESSING

DISMISSAL

FINAL PROCESSION

**How Great Thou Art**

Text: Carl Gustav Boberg, 1859-1940

Music: O STORE GUD, Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989

Verses



1. O Lord my God! When I in awe-some won-der Con - si - der  
2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, And hear the  
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to  
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me

1. all the \*worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I  
2. birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from  
3. die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross, my  
4. home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in

1. hear the \*roll - ing thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the  
2. lof - ty moun - tain gran - deur And hear the brook, and  
3. bur - den glad - ly bear - ing, He bled and died to  
4. hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion, And there pro - claim, my

Refrain

1. u - ni - verse dis - played; Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God to  
2. feel the gen - tle breeze;  
3. take a - way my sin;  
4. God, how great thou art!

thee; How great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my soul, my

Sav - ior God to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art!

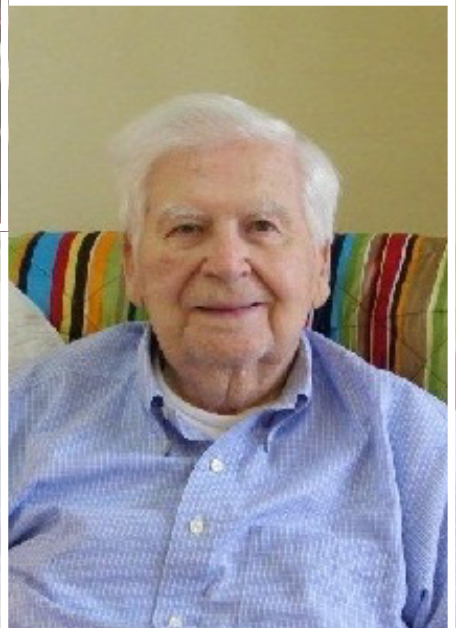
POSTLUDE

**Allegro Maestoso**

Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

*Following the Mass, all are invited to a Reception in Monsignor Howley Hall.*





From top left to right: Fr. Howley after his first wedding, 1947; Fr. Howley at Easter Vigil, 1997; Fr. Howley, Youth Group and Appalachia family at house blessing, 1992; Fr. Howley and a pal from Appalachia, 1991; Fr. Howley at Children's Mass, *Parade of Saints*, 1990; Fr. Howley with Biggins family, First Communion, 1978; Msgr. Howley on the way to his retirement party (from left: Frank Valente, Msgr. Howley and Lennis Koontz); Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of St. Thomas More Parish, 2006. (from left: Bishop Lori, Fr. Furey and Msgr. Howley); Msgr. Howley, May 2012, Arcadia, Florida.



**St. Thomas More Church Darien, Connecticut**

Reverend Paul G. Murphy, Pastor  
 Reverend Robert J. Post, Ph.D., Parochial Vicar

Erma Moore, Office Manager • Patty Catino, Administrative Assistant  
 Mary Ellen O'Connor, Coordinator Grades 1-6 • Janis Pataky, Coordinator Grades 7-12  
 Galen Tate, Music Director / Organist

*Special thanks to those enhancing today's Liturgy, especially*  
 The Adult Choir • John Hanulik, oboe • Kathleen Johansen-Stagg, flute  
 Don Cavett, bagpipes • Altar Servers • The Staff and Parish Council