

Rev. W.J. Dougherty, Episcopalian priest serving in New Jersey

HACKETTSTOWN — Rev. William J. Dougherty, 78, of Hackettstown, died Sunday, Feb. 19, in House of the Good Shepherd.

He was a member of the Department of Missions for the Diocese of Newark for 17 years, and chairman of the budget committee, department of finance for 11 years and the bishop's representative to the board of trustees of Heath Village in Hackettstown from 1963 to 1966.

He served as secretary and president of the Newark Clericus and a member of the executive council; was trustee, secretary and vice president of House of the Good Shepherd, archdeacon of Sussex and Warren County from 1970 to 1972, and president of the Western District Convocation from 1972 to 1976.

He and his wife, the former Muriel F. Taylor, were married 49 years last May 23.

Surviving in addition to his wife are three sons, Richard C. of Fredericksburg, Va., Kenneth R. of Trenton and Ronald A. of Hyde Park, N.Y.; two daughters, Bonnie S. Hancock of Tucson, Ariz., and Sallie J. Coleman of Forked River; 16 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday in Christ Episcopal Church in Newton. Call 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday in Smith-McCracken Funeral Home, 63 High St., Newton, NJ.

The family requests memorials to House of the Good Shepherd, 798 Willow Grove St., Hackettstown, NJ 07840, or Christ Episcopal Church Capital Fund, P.O. Box 146, Newton, NJ 07860.

After serving as a Methodist minister from 1942 to 1952, he became a deacon in the Episcopalian Church and was named the assistant at St. Mary's in Belvidere. After being ordained a priest, he served as vicar of St. Peter's Church in Washington from 1953 to 1958. During that time, he served as chaplain for the diocese at Mt. Kipp Tuberculosis Sanitarium.

In 1958, he was named rector of Church of the Holy Spirit in Verona and moved to Christ Church in Newton in 1981.

After his retirement in 1981, he was named rector emeritus at Christ Church. From 1982 to 1988, he was assistant at Trinity Episcopal church in Asbury Park, and was chaplain at House of the Good Shepherd from 1966 to 1987.

Born in Paterson, he was a son of the late William and Isabelle Stapleton Dougherty. He lived in Totowa, Paterson, Belvidere, Washington and Verona. In 1963, he moved to Newton, where he lived before moving to Ocean City in 1981, then to Hackettstown in 1988.

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February 21, 1995

Rev. William J. Dougherty

Date of Death

February 19, 1995