
Rev. Wilfredo T. Comellas



RACELAND, LA. — Reverend Wilfredo T. Comellas, 49, died Sunday, Nov. 10, 2013, at Ochsner St. Anne General Hospital, Raceland, La., after an illness.

Father Comellas, son of Wilfredo Tomas and the late Justa Anisia Comellas, was born in Havana, Cuba on April 16, 1964. His Father, Wilfredo Tomas, a political prisoner of the communist government, was set free in 1971 and brought his family to the United States as part of the Cuban Freedom Flight Program. Father Comellas received his early education at Saint Joan of Arc School, Jackson Heights, N.Y. and graduated from Saint John's Preparatory School, Astoria, N.Y. He then entered a two-year novitiate program with the Legion of Christ in Cheshire, Conn. He completed a degree in philosophy at Holy Apostles Seminary, Cromwell, Conn. Father graduated from Saint John's University, N.Y. with a B.A. in 1998 and completed his studies for the priesthood at Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University, Orange, N.J., receiving his Master of Arts degree.

He was ordained to the priesthood on June 28, 2003, in Saint Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, by the Most Reverend James C. Timlin, D.D., Bishop Emeritus of Scranton.

Father Comellas was assigned as assistant pastor at Saint Ann's Parish, Tobyhanna, with an additional assignment to the Hispanic Apostolate at Nativity of Our Lord Church, Scranton. Father was then appointed assistant pastor at Most Precious Blood Church, Hazleton, where he was later appointed administrator on December 29, 2008. Father served as assistant pastor at Saint Aloysius and Saint Casimir, Wilkes-Barre, and Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Hanover Township. On January 1, 2010, Father requested permission to serve in the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, La. He served there as chaplain of the Most Blessed Sacrament Faith Community, Gibson, La., and celebrated the traditional Latin Rite Mass for the Dominican Nuns of the Monastery of the Heart of Jesus in Lockport, La. In September, 2011 he also began teaching theology at Holy Savior School in Lockport.

Father Comellas was instrumental in establishing the Latin Mass congregation on the North Shore at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Lacombe, La. in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, where Father Comellas also served as the chairman of Mysterium Fidei Mass Society.

He is survived by his father, Wilfredo Tomas Comellas, Sr.; a brother, Leo M. Comellas; aunts and many cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Justa Anicia Comellas.

The wake will take place at 5 p.m. Wednesday in the Chapel of the Dominican Monastery of the Heart of Jesus, Lockport, La. with Solemn Vespers. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Thursday in Holy Savior Church, Lockport, La. Interment will be in Holy Savior Parish Cemetery.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 2. by His Excellency, Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, at St. Ann's Church, Tobyhanna.

Published in Times Leader from Nov. 13 to Nov. 14, 2013
