

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

# REV. ROBERT W. PUHLMAN

JULY 18, 1949 – OCTOBER 18, 2024

MOST REV. GREGORY W. GORDON, STL  
CELEBRANT

AUXILIARY BISHOP, ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAS VEGAS

REV. SHAWN DRESDEN  
HOMILIST

PASTOR, ST. JOHN PAUL II ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2024**

10:30 AM – Rosary

11:00 AM – Mass

1:00 PM – Rite of Committal at Palm Northwest  
St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church

# INTRODUCTORY RITES

## GREETING

*Bishop Gordon, with assisting ministers, goes to the door of the church and greets those present who are all standing.*

**Bishop Gordon:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All Respond:** And with your spirit.

## SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER

*Bishop Gordon then sprinkles the coffin with holy water, saying:*

**Bishop Gordon:** In the waters of Baptism, Fr. Robert Puhlman died with Christ and rose with Him to new life. May he now share with him eternal glory.

**All Respond:** Amen.

## PLACING OF THE PALL

*The pall is a cloth that covers a coffin from the reception into the church and is used throughout the funeral liturgy. The word comes from the Latin word pallium or cloak. The pall symbolizes the Baptismal robe that Fr. Bob wore at his own Baptism as an infant.*

## ENTRANCE PROCESSION

*Bishop Gordon, concelebrating clergy, and assisting ministers precede the coffin and the Puhlman family into the church. The parish's Paschal candle has already been placed near the position that the coffin will occupy at the conclusion of the procession.*

*The Paschal candle is placed near the coffin to indicate that the death of a Christian is his own Passover (Paschalis Sollemnitatis §99). During the procession, a psalm, song, or responsory is sung. Fr. Bob chose the hymn Shepherd Me, O God, which is inspired by Psalm 23 that he felt a strong devotion to as a pastor.*

## ENTRANCE HYMN: Shepherd Me, O God



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -  
yond my fears, from death in-to life.



Processional Hymn Text: & Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950) © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

## PLACING OF CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

All present are to remain standing. As symbols of his Christian life, Fr. Bob's personal Crucifix and Rosary as well as the parish's Book of Gospels, will be placed on his coffin by members of the Puhlman family.

## COLLECT

**All Respond:** Amen.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

All present are invited to sit as the liturgical celebration continues with the Liturgy of the Word. In the Liturgy of the Word, the Church feeds the people of God from the table of his Word (Sacrosanctum Concilium §51). The Scriptures are the Word of God, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. In the Scriptures, God speaks to us, leading us along the path to salvation.

### FIRST READING: Lamentations 3: 17-26

Fr. Bob's selection from Lamentations will be proclaimed by close friend Joshua Domingcil.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 23 (22)

II  
T HE Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

### SECOND READING: Colossians 1:24-29

Fr. Bob's selection from Colossians will be proclaimed by Emma Avila.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

VI  
A L- le- lu- ia, al- le- lu- ia, al- le- lu- ia.

### GOSPEL: John 14: 1-14

### HOMILY: Rev. Shawn Dresden

Fr. Shawn will deliver the homily. He spent his Pastoral Year (c. 2011-2012) with Fr. Bob at La Virgen de Guadalupe. He served St. Anthony of Padua (2014-2015) with Fr. Bob as a Transitional Deacon.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

**After Each Intercession, All Respond:** Lord, hear our prayer.

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## OFFERTORY

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say - Gather #724

## ORDINARY OF THE MASS: Gather #211 - #216

## COMMUNION HYMNS:

I Am the Bread of Life - Gather #945

As the Bread of Life Is Broken



As the bread of life is bro-ken, the cup of love out - poured,



We are one in Christ, our Sav - ior, and sent to serve the Lord.

Communion Hymn: Text: Rev. James Chepponis (b. 1956) © 2002, Birnamwood Publications, a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.; Music: THAXTED.

Ave Maria

## FINAL COMMENDATION

## SONG OF FAREWELL

## PROCESSION TO THE PLACE OF COMMITTAL

## CLOSING

In the Arms of God



Come and rest in the arms of God, leave your wor-ry and



fear; make your home in the heart of God, God will dry ev-'ry



tear. For the bur-den you car-ry will fade with - in God's



care, come and rest in the arms of God.

Text & Music: Tony Alonso (b. 1980) © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.



# FR. BOB'S ASSIGNMENTS

## SERVING THE LORD

Ordination: June 9, 1984

Holy Family Cathedral (Diocese of Orange)

Most Rev. William Robert Johnson, MSW

St. Irenaeus; Cypress, CA; Parochial Vicar

*July 1, 1984 - July 1, 1985*

Our Lady of Fatima; San Clemente, CA; Parochial Vicar

*July 1, 1985 - July 1, 1990*

St. Kilian; Mission Viejo, CA; Parochial Vicar

*July 1, 1990 - July 1, 1993*

Holy Spirit; Fountain Valley, CA; Parochial Vicar

*July 1, 1993 - July 1, 1997*

St. Cecilia; Tustin, CA; Parochial Vicar

*July 1, 1997 - April 30, 2002*

Our Lady of Las Vegas; Las Vegas, NV; Parochial Vicar

*June 1, 2002 - July 1, 2004*

St. James the Apostle; Las Vegas, NV; Parochial Administrator

*July 1, 2004 - October 31, 2005*

Mexican American Cultural Center; San Antonio, TX; Spanish language student

*November 1, 2005 - December 20, 2005*

La Virgen de Guadalupe; Mesquite, NV; Pastor

*January 2, 2006 - July 1, 2012*

St. Anthony of Padua; Las Vegas, NV; Founding Pastor

*July 1, 2012 - January 31, 2023*

Retired from Active Ministry

*February 1, 2023 - October 18, 2024*

# REV. ROBERT WELSH PUHLMAN

July 18, 1949 to October 18, 2024

Ordained a Priest: June 9, 1984

Rev. Robert W. Puhlman, 75, of Las Vegas, passed away on Friday, October 18, 2024. He was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on July 18, 1949, to Margaret and Albert Puhlman. He was one of four siblings: Peggy, Martha, and Albert Jr. At the age of nine, his family moved to California, where he completed school and college. After graduating, he entered the Salesians of Don Bosco and became a religious brother. Fr. Bob eventually left the Salesians to study for the Diocese of Orange. He was ordained a Roman Catholic Priest on June 9, 1984, by Most Rev. William Johnson at Holy Family Cathedral in Orange, California.

Fr. Puhlman's life was marked by his unwavering commitment to the Lord's work. His assignments took him to various communities, including St. Irenaeus, Cypress, CA; Our Lady of Fatima, San Clemente, CA; St. Kilian, Mission Viejo, CA; Holy Spirit, Fountain Valley, CA; St. Cecilia, Tustin, CA; Our Lady of Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV; St. James the Apostle, Las Vegas, NV; La Virgen de Guadalupe, Mesquite, NV; and St. Anthony of Padua, Las Vegas, NV. His presence and dedication left a lasting impact on each of these parishes.

Fr. Bob's legacy is one of service and dedication. His efforts were instrumental in the successful capital campaigns that culminated in the construction of two churches in the rapidly growing Archdiocese of Las Vegas. Fr. Bob constructed La Virgen de Guadalupe and St. Anthony of Padua. For his efforts, Fr. Bob earned the nickname "Bob the Builder" at a time when that children's show was popular. His most recent appointment was as the Founding Pastor of St. Anthony of Padua in Centennial Hills on July 1, 2012. He held a deep love for God and His people. His magnetic personality and reputation as a practical joker not only led to deep belly laughs, but filled the hearts of many.

During the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Fr. Bob quickly assembled an online Catholic evangelization ministry at St. Anthony of Padua, culminating in many people returning to the Catholic faith and several men discerning the priestly vocation. This legacy continues today as the only live-streamed evening Mass, with music, on the West Coast. He retired from active ministry on January 31, 2023, leaving behind a legacy of faithful service that will inspire generations to come.

Father Bob is survived by sister-in-law, Carole, and brother-in-law, Don, as well as his nieces and nephews, Ken, Merilee, Tina, Chip, and Scott.

In lieu of flowers, donations in the Memory of Fr. Bob Puhlman can be made to the Building Fund of St. Anthony Roman Catholic Church, Las Vegas, NV. Online donations can be made at [www.SAPLV.com](http://www.SAPLV.com).

# “YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER” – PSALM 110



Fr. Bob at a family wedding.



Visits with his much loved dog, Frankie.



Fr. Bob's 40th anniversary earlier this year.



Fr. Bob visiting Josh at the Seminary.



A Halloween visit with "The Sisters."



40th anniversary smiles in Mesquite.



SiriusXM debut with Lino Rulli in Feb. 2016.



Mass of Thanksgiving for retirement.



Selfie attempt for SEO.



Groundbreaking at St. Anthony of Padua.



Fr. Bob Puhlman with Fr. Steve Hoffer at their first Mass together.



The Three Amigos.



Virgen de Guadalupe celebration.



Administrators & Pastors of SAPLV before Bishop Pepe's Blessing Mass.

We'll meet again some sunny day. Keep smiling through just like you always do!

# ASSITING WITH THE LITURGY

Most Rev. Gregory W. Gordon, STL  
*Celebrant & Auxiliary Bishop of Las Vegas*

Rev. Shawn Dresden  
*Homilist & Pastor of St. John Paul II Roman Catholic Church*

Rev. Mr. Antonio Avila  
*Deacon of the Word & Deacon, St. Christopher Roman Catholic Church*

Rev. Mr. Jaime Marquez  
*Deacon of the Altar & Deacon, La Virgen de Guadalupe, Mesquite, NV*

Mr. Kevin Kiefer, OP  
*Master of Ceremonies*

Dr. William Paul Freeman, Ed.D., MBA  
*Director of Music & Liturgy, St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church*

Knights of Columbus - 4th Degree & Color Corps  
*Rosary*

Mr. Joshua Domingcil & Mrs. Emma Avila  
*Lectors*

Mr. Tom Brooks, Mr. Sam Franco, & Mr. Josh Lynn  
*Sacristans*

Cameron Meyer, Colin, Sophia and Christian Kirkpatrick & Seminarians of the Archdiocese of Las Vegas  
*Altar Servers*

The Choir of St. Anthony's; The Children's Choir; The San Pedro Calungsod Choir  
St. Anthony of Padua Funeral & Environment Ministries  
The Knights of Columbus Color Corps

Fr. Bob's Family and Friends Wish to Offer a Special Thanks To...

*Most Rev. George Leo Thomas, Ph.D. & Clergy of the Archdiocese, Abel Carlos & Family, Theresa Anderson & Pam Bell, Fr. Bob's Medical Team & Caregivers, Parishioners of the parishes Fr. Bob served, Parish Office Staff, SAP Shepherd's Council & Parish Ministries, SAP Confirmation Students, Archdiocesan Chancery Staff, Missio Dei Media, and Flowing Tide Pub.*

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