

Biography for Fr. John Joseph Forbes III

Fr. John was born in Baltimore, Maryland on May 29, 1958 to John J. Forbes Jr. and Joan White Forbes. He is the oldest of five children. He lived in Bowie, Maryland and attended St. Pius X School. He moved with his family to North Carolina on February 29, 1972. He graduated from eighth grade at St. Pius X School and Our Lady of Lourdes School in June of 1972. His freshman class reopened Cardinal Gibbons High School, and he graduated Salutatorian for the Class of 1976.

In May of 1980, John graduated cum laude from North Carolina State University in Raleigh with a B.A. in Psychology. He attended the University of Notre Dame in Indiana for two years of graduate Theology studies. He spent one year as a candidate for the Eastern province of the Holy Cross Fathers. He was assigned to Holy Cross Parish in South Easton, Mass. He attended classes at Weston School of Theology in Cambridge, Mass.

In 1983, John returned to Raleigh and worked at the D.H. Hill Library at North Carolina State University. In 1984, he was hired as the first full-time Director of Religious Education at Our Lady of Lourdes. After two years at O.L.L., John enrolled at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he received a M.S. in Information and Library Science. During this time he resided at St. Joseph Parish in Raleigh and was their Director of Religious Education. In 1988, John went to the Catholic University of America in Wash. D.C. as a seminarian for the Diocese of Raleigh. He was ordained a deacon at Sacred Heart Cathedral and a priest at Our Lady of Lourdes in 1991. His first assignment as a priest was to St. Mary Parish in Wilmington, followed by a short time at Christ the King in Riegelwood and Our Lady of the Snows in Elizabethtown. He was assigned to Sacred Heart Cathedral for six months and then to Immaculate Conception in Durham as the parochial vicar and chaplain to the Duke University Medical Center and the V.A. Hospital.

In July of 1996, Fr. John was named pastor of St. Stephen the First Martyr in Sanford. During his ten year pastorate, St. Stephen Church grew rapidly and relocated to a new campus. In August of 2006, Fr. John was named the pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Fr. John's parents, Jack and Joan, live in Greystone in north Raleigh and are parishioners of St. Raphael Church. His brother Steve and wife Susan live in Atlanta, Georgia with their daughter Christie. Steve's son Stephen is in Raleigh at NC State University completing his fifth year of accounting. Steve's son Brad is a freshman at the University of Tennessee. Fr. John's brother Tom and wife Tonya live in New Hill, N.C. with their twin daughters Emily and Amelia. Their son, Tommy is a senior and daughter Lauren a freshman at NC State University. Fr. John's sister, Mary is an internal medicine doctor at Boylan Internal Medicine in North Hills. She also resides in North Hills in Raleigh. Fr. John's brother, Bob and wife Vanessa live in Nashville, Tennessee with children, Sean, Alex, and Catherine.