

Father Phillip “Phil” Benson Lindley, 73, of Amarillo, passed away on the morning of June 12, 2026.

Father Phil was born in Amarillo, Texas on October 20, 1952, to Benson John and Margaret Lucille (Long) Lindley. He graduated from Guymon High School in Guymon, Oklahoma in 1970. Father Phil would later receive his bachelor’s degree in business from Oklahoma State University and then a master’s degree in theology from Pontifical College of Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. On October 20, 1983, his 31st birthday, at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Amarillo, Father Phil received his ordination into the priesthood by then Bishop Leroy T. Matthieson. Phillip celebrated his first Mass after ordination at his original home parish of St. Peter the Apostle in Guymon, OK on October 23, 1983. He served as the Parochial Vicor for almost two years at St. Thomas under Monsignor Joseph Tash before moving to St. Jose’s Church in Hereford, Texas to take on the same roll under Monsignor Joe Bixenman. He later served as Parochial Vicar at Immaculate Conception Church in Vega, Texas, Administrator at Our Mother of Mercy Church in Wellington, Texas; Pastor of St. Patrick’s Church in Shamrock; and St. Mary’s Church in Wheeler, Texas, and Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church in Amarillo, Texas where he served as Pastor until 1998, with many additional tenures of service along the way.

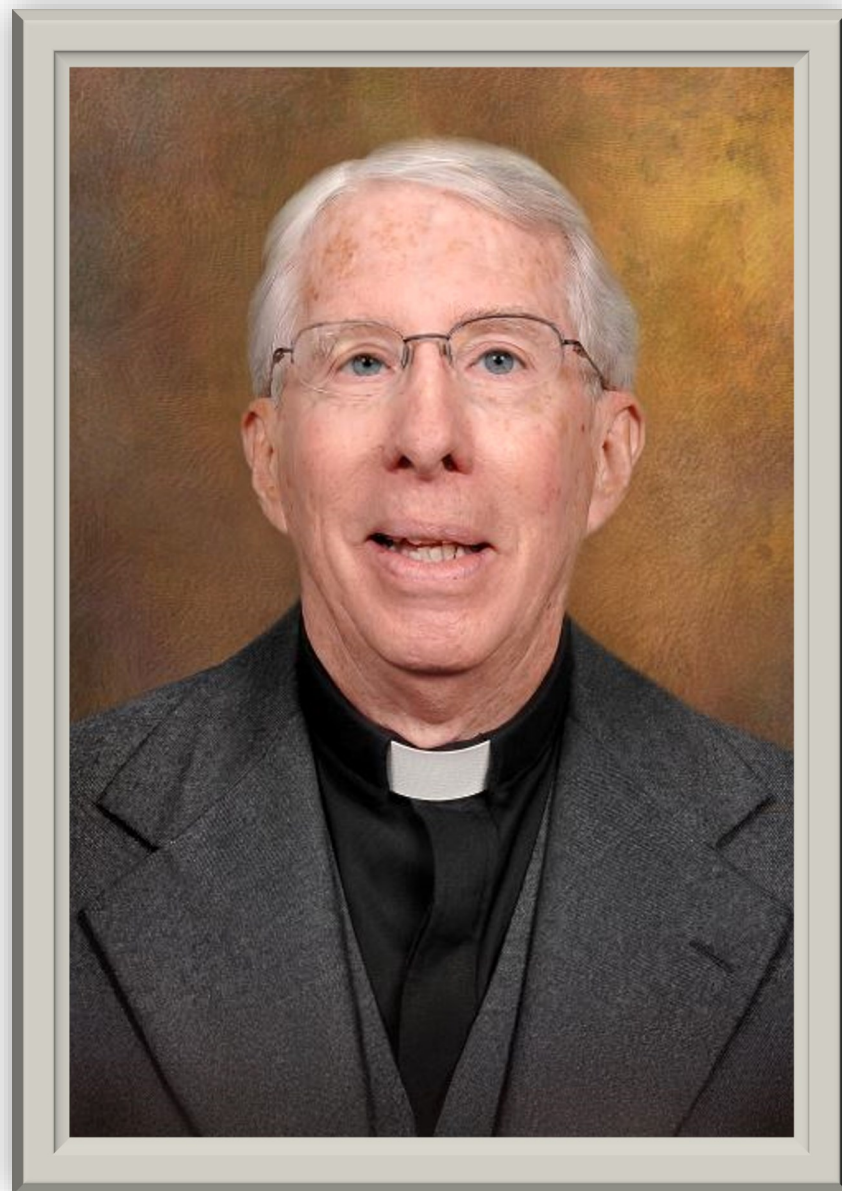
Following his departure from Blessed Sacrament Church, Father Lindley filled in for priests in need of time off or vacations.

In his free time, Father Phil enjoyed gardening and cooking. He and several of the priests of the Amarillo Diocese would create menus and meet almost monthly to enjoy fellowship and dinner together. Father Phil was blessed with the gift of music and a voice that was truly remarkable. He played the organ and piano, and when celebrating Mass during special events, he would chant the Eucharistic Prayers and Gospel when he didn’t have a Deacon available.

Father Phil is preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Martha McClenney. Those left to cherish his memories are his sister, Mary Erker and husband Stacey of Salina, KS, brothers, Michael Lindley and wife Linda of Amarillo, TX, Kevin Lindley and wife Sandra of Mission Viejo, CA, Lawrence Lindley and wife Sherry of Guymon, OK, and Thomas Lindley of Optima, OK. He also leaves his numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, and all of his friends and family of the Amarillo Diocese and Catholic Church.



Celebrating The Life Of



REVEREND PHILLIP BENSON LINDLEY

October 20, 1952 ~ June 12, 2026

~Prayer of St Francis of Assisi~

Prayer for Peace

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that
I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

In Loving Memory Of

Reverend Phillip “Father Phil” Benson Lindley

October 20, 1952

June 12, 2026

Amarillo, Texas

Amarillo, Texas

MEMORIAL MASS

Monday, July 27, 2026 7:00 PM

St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

CELEBRANT

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo

CON-CELEBRANTS

Priests of the Amarillo Diocese

DEACON OF THE WORD

Deacon Brian Lewis

DEACON OF THE EUCHARIST

Deacon Darryl Dixon

CANTOR

Vanessa Rausher

MUSICIAN

Jim Rausher

PRIVATE INURNMENT

Elmhurst Cemetery Guymon, Oklahoma