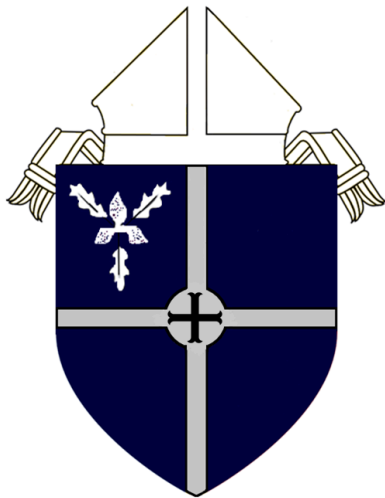
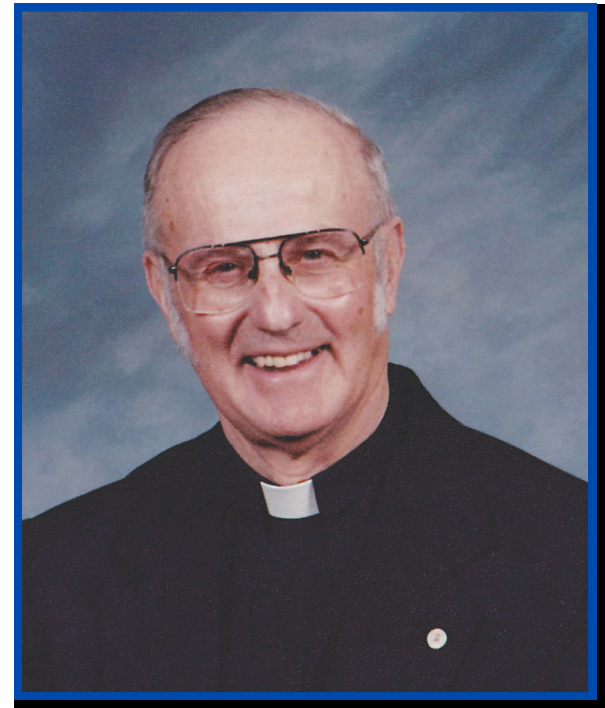


In Loving Memory

Reverend Leonard Eckroth



Requiescat in Pace



October 7, 1932 ~ June 18, 2026

*His master said to him,
'Well done, my good and faithful servant.
Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.
Come, share your master's joy.'*

Matthew 25:21

The Reverend Leonard A. Eckroth, 93, passed away at St. Vincent's Care Center in Bismarck on June 18, 2026.

Father Eckroth was born on October 7, 1932, in Mandan, ND to Louis and Hedwig (Grunenfelder) Eckroth. He was raised in Mandan and attended St. Joseph's School through the 8th grade. He went on to graduate from high school at St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. Fr. Eckroth continued his seminary studies at St. Paul Seminary in St. Paul, MN, graduating in 1958. He was ordained by the Most Reverend Hilary B. Hacker on June 2, 1958, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck.

In his first year of priesthood, he served as chaplain of St. Joseph's Hospital, Dickinson; assistant of the Churches of Saint Anne, Bismarck; St. Michael, Sentinel Butte; and Home on the Range, Sentinel Butte. He then served as assistant of the Pro Cathedral of St. Mary, Bismarck, until October 1960. His next assignment was administrator of the Church of St. Michael, rural Linton. In August 1961 he became pastor of the Churches of St. John, New Leipzig; Sacred Heart, Bentley; and St. Mary, Miner. He then became pastor of the Church of St. Joseph, Bowbells, and St. John the Baptist, Portal. From July 1970 to June 1978, he served as pastor of the Churches of St. Thomas, Tioga, and St. James, Powers Lake. Fr. Eckroth's next assignment was serving as pastor of the Churches of St. Martin, Huff, and Immaculate Conception, Fort Rice, serving there until July 1987. He was then appointed pastor of the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, Strasburg, until July 1, 2009, and the Church of St. Aloysius, Hague, until July 1, 1989. He also served as pastor of the Church of St. Michael, rural Linton, from July 1993 to December 1998. He served as pastor of the Church of St. Mary, Hague, from July 1989 to July 2009.

Along with his parish duties, he was Defender of the Bond for the Tribunal Office for 28 years and Vice-Officialis for nine years. He also served as chaplain of the North Dakota State Industrial School, North Dakota State Penitentiary, Columbian Squires, and the cloistered Carmelites in Hague. Father Eckroth entered retirement on July 1, 2009, after serving the faithful of the Bismarck Diocese for 51 years. He lived at the Emmaus Place before moving to St. Vincent's Care Center.

Father Eckroth is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Anthony & Joan Eckroth of Mission, TX, as well as many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother and father, Hedwig and Louis Eckroth, and eleven of his brothers and sisters.

***The family invites you to the Mandan Eagles Club (1400 Collins Ave)
following the committal service for food and fellowship.***

Funeral Services for **+ Reverend Leonard Eckroth**

Knights of Columbus Rosary & Parish Vigil

Thursday, June 25, 2026; 7:00 PM
Church of St. Joseph, Mandan, ND
Presider: Fr. John Paul Gardner

Mass of Christian Burial

Friday, June 26, 2026; 10:00 AM
Church of St. Joseph, Mandan, ND
Celebrant: Most Reverend David D. Kagan
Deacon: Randy Frohlich
Homilist: Fr. Paul Eberle

Pallbearers
Priests of the
Bismarck Diocese

Altar Servers
Seminarians of the
Bismarck Diocese

Lectors
Deacon Gary Mizeur
Deacon Kenneth Wolbaum

Musicians
Church of St. Joseph
Schola

Order of Service

Prelude
Processional Song

"Amina Chirsti" (Frisina)
"Here I Am, Lord"

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading
Responsorial Psalm

Lamentations 3:17-26
Psalm 23

"The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I shall want."

New Testament Reading
Gospel Reading
Homily

Philippians 3:20-21
John 14:1-6

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts Song
Presentation of Gifts

"Soul of My Savior" #344
Scott, Kristine, Nathaniel,
Moriah, and Courtney Eckroth

Eucharistic Prayer
Communion Songs

"O Lord, I am Not Worthy" #282
"O Sacrament Most Holy" #286

Communion Meditation
Final Commendation
Closing Song

"Now Thank We All Our God" #263
"Song of Farewell" (Old Hundredth)
"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" #214

Committal Service

Mandan Union Cemetery
Mandan, ND