

Aloha our beloved parish 'ohana,

I write to tell you that the Reverend Guy Hiwa Piltz, Rector Emeritus of St. James' Church, died peacefully in his home in Waimea in the early morning hours of this past Monday. His beloved wife, Jo, and family members were with him.

Guy+ was born in Honolulu on September 7, 1938. He graduated from Dartmouth College and the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. He was ordained by Bishop Harry Kennedy to the Diaconate in May 1963 and to the Priesthood in December 1963.

Guy+ was appointed Vicar of St. James' Church by Bishop Kennedy in 1973. Guy+ and Jo moved from O'ahu to Waimea and were home. Here, they raised their family. The five of them living in the church's vicarage (now the Parish Office).

Under Guy's leadership St. James' became a parish in October 1978, a major feat for any congregation. Guy+, therefore, became our parish's first rector.

While serving at St. James', he also served as Chaplain for Hawai'i Preparatory Academy from 1973-1974 when the Rev. Tom Kunichika was on sabbatical. In 1979, Guy+ accepted a call to be HPA's permanent chaplain. In addition to serving as Chaplain, Guy+ taught history, and for several years served as the Head of the History Department. He also served as a coaching assistant for the swim and track teams.

Fr. Guy also served as a Priest at Emmanuel (Kailua), St. Matthew's (Waimānalo), St. Mary's (Mō'ili'ili), St. Barnabas (Ewa Beach), Holy Spirit (Waipahu), St. Philip's (Mā'ili), and St. Augustine's (Kapa'au).

During my tenure, these past 8+ years, Guy has been a faithful clergy colleague. For many years, he assisted in taking home communions, offering pastoral coverage, and preaching at various services, especially on high Holy Days. On a personal note, he has been a blessed sounding board; a trusted friend who was always willing to listen and help me think through a particular situation. From my first week in Waimea, Guy+ and Jo welcomed me with open arms. I recall his taking me to visit Sam Kimura, and other parishioners, introducing me to longtime members of our parish 'ohana. He was an incredible blessing to many of us as he offered his gifts of teaching and his biblical knowledge by leading a weekly Bible Study at St. James'. I know I learned more about the Holy Scriptures from Guy+ than I ever did in seminary. He was an outstanding biblical scholar who had the unique ability to weave in local colloquialism, thus helping one to better understand and relate to the bible. He had an unbelievable memory, able to quote just about any Scripture verse and recall the words of most every hymn in our hymnal. He would often start singing a hymn from memory. Music was a great part of his life.

I count him as one of my dearest friends, and I am greatly blessed God crossed our paths.

A celebration of Guy's life will be announced at a later date.

Notes of love and support may be sent to his beloved wife, Jo, and their 'ohana at PO Box 1973, Kamuela, HI 96743.

May Guy rest in peace and rise in Glory. With sympathy and the hope we have in Christ our Lord,

David

*Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother Guy, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. Amen.*

