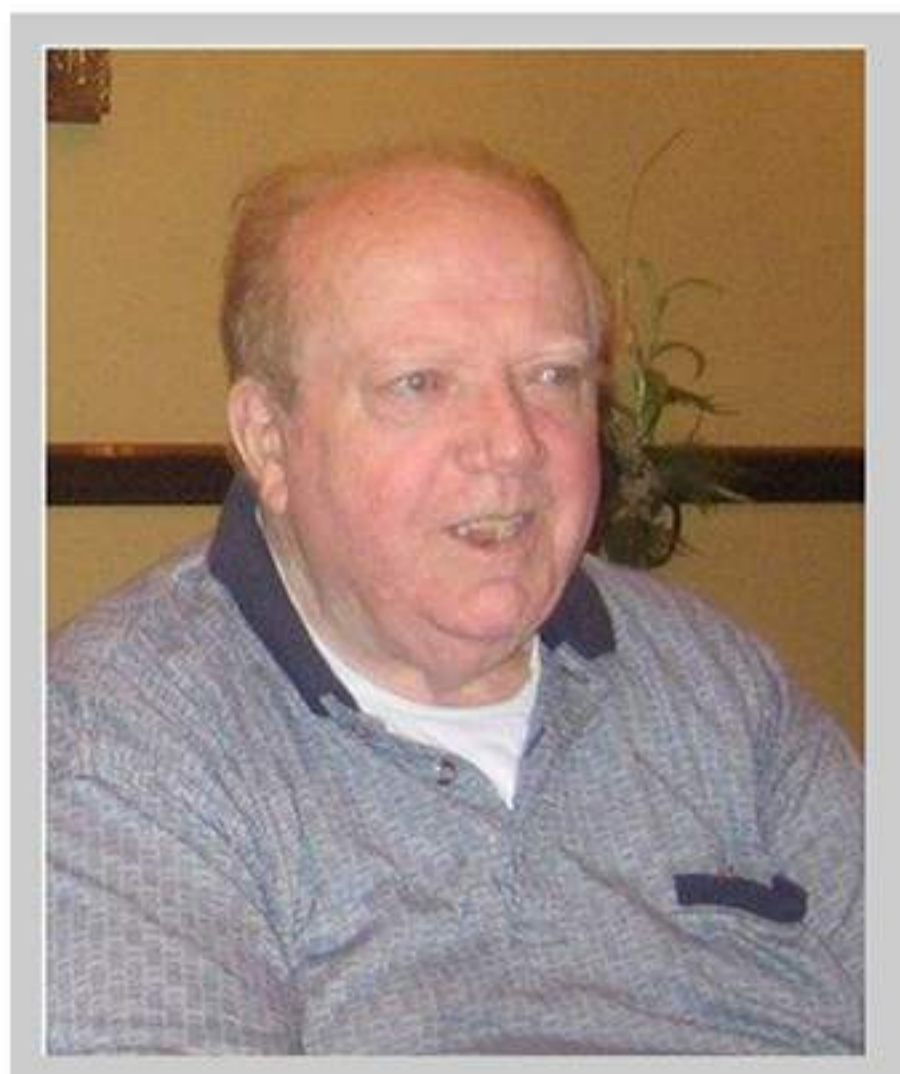


IN MEMORIAM

Monsignor Michael Higgins -
Justice for Priests and Deacons Founder



In 1997, after years of canonical ministry and recognizing a greater need for authentic, independent canonical advocacy, Msgr. Michael Higgins founded Justice for Priests and Deacons. Justice for Priests and Deacons has steadfastly worked for the past twenty (20) years to assist anyone whose canonical rights were being denied by Church authorities. Learning from his personal experiences, Monsignor properly stood tall and reached out a helping hand to others so that they might not suffer the indignities that could disrupt their relationship with the Church. From its inception, Michael built this organization, grew it and touched the lives of countless individuals by giving them hope, solace, and defense of their rights. As of this date, over 1,000 priests, deacons, women and men religious, and lay people from the United States and other countries have been assisted as they seek to have their rights respected and restored. On October 21, 2016, this faithful servant of God, after a brief illness, was called to his heavenly reward surrounded by friends and family. Born in 1937 in the town of Athenry, County Galway, Ireland, he was educated in Ireland and ordained a priest for the Diocese of San Diego, CA in 1964. He later studied canon law at Catholic University of America where he received his J.C.L. and at the Gregorian University in Rome where he received his J.C.D. He remained an active member of the Canon Law Society of America until his death. His remains have been transported back to Ireland so they could be interred in the cemetery of his beloved birth place of Athenry.

Before his death, Msgr. Higgins arranged for the continuation of this vital canonical ministry by receiving the consent of the Board of Directors with the appointment of a successor Executive Director for Justice for Priests and Deacons, Robert Flummerfelt, JCL, Esq., of Las Vegas, NV. Mr. Flummerfelt has worked closely with Msgr. Higgins and the Executive Board for many years and intends to execute fully that same vision that Msgr. Higgins had for Justice for Priests and Deacons; successful and tireless advocacy for those in need of canonical representation. As we memorialize and remember the life of Msgr. Higgins, we give thanks to God for raising up a champion to defend the priesthood and to defend the rights of all those whose basic rights of due process have been denied by ecclesiastical processes. Msgr. Higgins reminded us all that we have rights that are derived from divine law, natural law and canon law, none of which can be denied by the actions of men, no matter their ecclesial status. The lesson is a difficult one, especially for an institution that, while it has the duty of pointing out the deficits of applied justice in other worldly organizations, must look internally to see how it practices justice for its own citizens. Msgr. Higgins' vision and dedication will continue as Justice for Priests and Deacons continues its mission for the next twenty (20) years of need for those who serve the Church. May God grant Eternal Peace to Msgr. Michael Higgins.

ONGOING GOALS

Securing basic rights for accused

Articulating and preserving basic Canonical Rights for accused clergy and lay-people

Promoting awareness

Spreading Justice for Priests and Deacons' mission to inform clergy and laypeople alike of the basic rights and protections they are entitled to

Increasing Education

Increasing education about Divine, Natural, and Canonical rights that *all* accused cannot be deprived of

SUCCESSSES

more than **800**

Priests and deacons, male and female religious and lay people assisted in having their rights respected and restored.

“ No one is ever prepared to confront false allegations, and I turned immediately to JFPD for canonical counsel for the ensuing trial. JFPD was there every step of the way, all the way to the not guilty verdict. Cannot imagine this outcome without their excellent services! ”

-Vindicated Priest

2016 was Justice for Priests and Deacons' most successful year to date.



CONTINUED SUPPORT

In this Lenten season, Justice for Priests and Deacons would like to thank you for your continued support, and ask that especially in this time of mourning over the loss of a great advocate for priests and deacons' rights, you maintain your faithful support of Justice for Priests and Deacons and its mission.

Thank you,

Robert Flummerfelt
Justice for Priests and Deacons Executive Director

Justice for Priests and Deacons
410 South Rampart Blvd., Suite 390
Las Vegas, Nevada 89145
(702)-726-6777

