



## Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula

May 7, 1936 - December 25, 2017

Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula, 81, of El Campo, passed away December 25, 2017. He was born May 7, 1936 in Shiner to the late Louis F. and Lillie Hybner Matula. He was the beloved pastor at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in El Campo for the past 30 years. He was appointed to Monsignor by Pope Benedict XVI on August 6, 2012. The service of elevation was held November 19, 2012 at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral by Most Reverend David E. Fellhauer.

He attended St. Ludmila's Academy until 1950 when he entered St. John's Seminary in San Antonio. In 1955, he entered Assumption Seminary to complete his minor and major Orders. He was ordained to Holy Priesthood on May 26, 1962 by His Excellency, Most Reverend Robert E. Lucey at San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio. His first assignment was associate pastor at Sacred Heart Parish, where he served for 5 years. During his years in San Antonio, he served at Inner City Apostolate as co-director from 1968-1970 and then at Christ the King Parish as pastor from 1971-1982. During the formation of the Victoria Diocese in 1983, he was assigned to St. Anthony Parish in Palacios as pastor for 3 years. His last and longest assignment was as pastor to St. Robert's Parish in El Campo.

He is survived by his sister, Theresa Jane Bordovsky and husband Rudy of Yoakum, niece Ann Marie Bludau and husband Paul of Hallettsville, and

nephews Andy Bordovsky and Carl Bordovsky and wife Debbie of Yoakum, and R. L. Bordovsky and wife Leah of Victoria; great-nieces and nephews Zachariah Bordovsky (Samantha), Hannah, Isaiah, Joshua, Jacob Bordovsky, Jordan and Lillieana Bludau; Aunts Martha Janota and Jane Pickering of Shiner, and Elizabeth Hybner of Victoria; Uncles Philip Hybner of Lufkin, Daniel Hybner of Lake Jackson.

Visitation begins 4 p.m. Thursday, December 28 at St. Robert's Catholic Church with a Vigil at 6:30 p.m. Funeral Mass begins 10 a.m. Friday, December 29 at St. Robert's Catholic Church with Most Reverend Brendan Cahill officiating and his brother priests from the Victoria Diocese concelebrating. Graveside services will begin 4 p.m. at Shiner Catholic Cemetery.

Serving as pallbearers are Andy Bordovsky, Carl Bordovsky, R. L. Bordovsky, Zachariah Bordovsky, Joshua Bordovsky and Paul Bludau.

Donations in Memory of Msgr. Lawrence Matula may be made to St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Robert Bellarmine Church in El Campo.

Triska Funeral Home, El Campo, TX, 979-543-3681

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 28. 4:00 PM (CT)

St. Robert's Catholic Church  
512 Tegner St  
El Campo, TX 77437

## Vigil

DEC 28. 6:30 PM (CT)

St. Robert's Catholic Church  
512 Tegner St  
El Campo, TX 77437

## Funeral Mass

DEC 29. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Robert's Catholic Church  
512 Tegner St  
El Campo, TX 77437

## Graveside Service

DEC 29. 4:00 PM (CT)

Shiner Catholic Cemetery  
Shiner, TX 77984

# Tribute Wall

BV

“ *Becky Vieyra lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula*



---

**Becky Vieyra** - August 15, 2019 at 11:55 PM

SB

“ *My Condolences to the Family. He was my favorite priest growing up when He was at Sacred Heart Catholic Parish in San Antonio. I remember him driving the Girl Scouts to camp in a bus we were all singing. He was so nervous as he drove he couldn't chew his gum any faster. As a family we would drive to Laredo to go to the Bullfights & on more than one occasion we Ran into Fr. Matula. I was so suprised but my dad said why he deserves to go Out and enjoy himself just like we were. I was Blessed to have known Father Matula & will always cherish the memories I have of Him. MAY HE ALWAYS REST PEACE.*



---

**Sonia Cavazos Baldwin** - January 01, 2018 at 12:14 PM

HS

“ *Remember fr matula very well from his time at christ the king in san antonio*



---

**henry brown retired detective sapd** - December 31, 2017 at 05:23 PM

LG

“ I am saddened to hear the news of Monsignor Matula passing. He married my husband and I almost 40 years ago on 2/4/1978 @Christ the King Church in San Antonio. I was fortunate to see him a few years ago when he returned to CTK for a celebration of the church.

-----  
**Luisa Gonzales** - December 31, 2017 at 01:00 AM

EV

“ Ellie Valdez lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula



-----  
**Ellie Valdez** - December 29, 2017 at 08:26 AM

VB

“ I will miss Father Matula very much. He taught how play mass as well as Catholic wedding and funerals. I will miss his guidance very much. My sympathies to his loving family.

-----  
**Vickey Brooks** - December 28, 2017 at 11:19 PM

LG

“ May Msgr. Lawrence Matula Rest in Peace. He taught me catechism before he became a priest and pointed the way to be coming a good Catholic.

*Connie(Tillie)Tijerina*

-----  
**Leonard Gutierrez** - December 28, 2017 at 07:52 PM

MR

“ Our sincere condolences and sympathy to the family of Father Matula . Father Matula married us, my family members and baptized our sons. We will always remember him as a very articulate and special priest when he was at Christ the King Church in San Antonio, Texas. Mary and Ernest Reyes

-----  
**Mary L and Ernest Reyes** - December 28, 2017 at 07:25 PM

LC

“ It was a pleasure knowing Ref. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula while he was at Christ the King Catholic Church in San Antonio. He was a close and dear friend of the family and he will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.  
Jaime and Linda Castillo  
San Antonio, Texas

-----  
**Linda V. Castillo** - December 28, 2017 at 03:41 PM

DS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



-----  
**David Saenz** - December 28, 2017 at 03:28 PM

DS

“ David Saenz lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula



-----  
**David Saenz** - December 28, 2017 at 03:24 PM

DS

*Padre Matula fue mi guía espiritual y consejero.*

David Saenz - December 28, 2017 at 03:26 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula.*



December 28, 2017 at 11:05 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula.*



December 28, 2017 at 01:48 AM

NF

“ *Our shepherd is now in heaven! I remember him as a humble and kind person. His kindness will always be in our hearts. He has been a part of our family for many years. Through baptisms, communion, confirmations, marriages, anointing, and blessings! He will always be a special part of our family.*

Nelda and Trae Vallejo and family - December 28, 2017 at 01:42 AM



*Sad News Trade & Nelda, please contact us  
SA - Richard & Ivonne G Martínez*

Ivonne G. Martinez - December 31, 2017 at 01:34 PM

GV

“ *With our sympathy and prayers.*

*Gene & Betty Valenta  
Yoakum, Texas*

---

**Gene & Betty Valenta** - December 27, 2017 at 04:20 PM

DG

“ *Rest in God's peace, Msgr. Lawrence. +  
You baptized me many years ago and were a  
wonderful part of the Hybner family. I  
remember speaking with you at the last  
Hybner Family reunion in Shiner this past  
spring, you were cheerful as always. Your interest in others was  
constant and you will be missed by all. You, Theresa & Rudy will be  
in our daily prayers.*

*– Denise & Jim Genty*



---

**Denise Genty** - December 27, 2017 at 04:18 PM

FJ

“ *We offer our condolences on the repose of Rev. Msgr. Father  
Lawrence Matula. He will be remember in our prayers and  
commemorations. May the Lord Our God remember Father  
Lawrence in His Heavenly Kingdom, now and always, unto the ages  
of ages. Amen.*

*Father Lawrence and I attended St. John's and Assumption  
Seminaries with Blessed Stanley Rother. We pray that Father  
Lawrence will be in the company of Blessed Stanley*

*Archpriest Frederick Janeček*

---

**Father Frederick Janecek** - December 27, 2017 at 12:22 PM

HD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Helen Dolezal - December 27, 2017 at 10:46 AM

RG

“ Ralph & Cathy Goerig lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula



Ralph & Cathy Goerig - December 27, 2017 at 10:14 AM

HD

“ We will always remember Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula with great affection and love. He was a wonderful compassionate priest who was down to earth and always willing to listen to people. St. Anthony's of Palacios was blessed to have him as our priest for 3 years for which we are grateful.

*Děkuji (Thank You), Msgr. Matula, for a life well lived through service to God and His people. May you rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon you forever.*

*Annie, Helen & Billy Dolezal  
Palacios, TX*



Helen Dolezal - December 27, 2017 at 08:45 AM

CR

“ *Clarence & Judy Rohan lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula*



---

**Clarence & Judy Rohan** - December 27, 2017 at 08:09 AM

RH

“ *Regina Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula*



---

**Regina Hawkins** - December 27, 2017 at 06:19 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula.*



---

December 27, 2017 at 01:18 AM

AS

“ *What a kind . Loving person . You are serving with Jesus now . God bless you . You have touched many lives*

---

**Annie Sanchez** - December 26, 2017 at 11:05 PM



“ *Shana Carter-Rodriguez lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula*



---

**Shana Carter-Rodriguez** - December 26, 2017 at 10:50 PM



“ *I remember him as a man of compassion, wisdom, kindness and sincerity. He had a gift of being able to truly listen to the people, respecting traditions and understanding the needs of the people. St. Robert's was truly blessed with this man of Czech heritage with a great knowledge of the Hispanic culture including the language. It is sad that we have loss him but we have gained an great Angel. His suffering is over. I know he is with God. With much love and respect May he RIP.*

---

**Shana Carter-Rodriguez** - December 26, 2017 at 10:50 PM



Claudia Garcia

“ *Our sincere condolences to his family and his family at St. Robert's Parish in El Campo. He will be missed.*  
*Claudia Garcia*  
*Universal City, Tx*



---

**Claudia Garcia** - December 26, 2017 at 07:35 PM

PH

“ *Paul Hogan lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula*



---

**Paul Hogan** - December 26, 2017 at 05:45 PM

SP

“ *Susie Perez lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula*



---

**Susie perez** - December 26, 2017 at 05:26 PM

  
Sheldon  
Holub

“ *Sheldon Holub lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula*



---

**Sheldon Holub** - December 26, 2017 at 04:57 PM

CG

“ I post this with Joy and Sadness. I visited with Father on Saturday and told him how Father Phillip Brune didn't know how to use a lan line...and he slightly smiled...that is the image that i will remember, not his weakness or fragile state...He has been with us for over 31 years served us with compassion, sturdiness and with all his convictions of love of God and serves to the poor. He was a great believe in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and supported us always in all our endeavors. I will greatly miss him but will always remember his passing on Christ's Birthday..

Thank you Lord, for Fr Matula, he served you well...I thank you for taking him so that we won't see him suffering, he left us physically but God i know that he is with you and will continue to guide us with his spirit and intercession to you directly...Help us with our sadness and our loss...to move forward in our work to continuing honoring what he taught us to give your people love, hope and faith along with dignity that is theirs...Amen

Father married me and Felix over twenty years ago, I would go tattle on Felix when he made me mad...Father always calmed me down and help me to see a bigger picture...

I will miss him dearly but will continue to ask for his intercession of my life, marriage and vocation....Cathy Villarreal Garcia



---

Cathy Villarreal Garcia - December 26, 2017 at 04:55 PM

MI

“ Thank you Rev. Msgr Lawrence Matula. I made my first communion with you. You gave the funerals at my grandparents funeral. Your sermons touched us all. At Christmas you would sing a Czech song. Thank you for being a great father to us all at St Roberts parish community. You will be missed. Gracias Padre Matula por todo. Love Margarito Cervantez III

Margarito Cervantez III - December 26, 2017 at 04:24 PM

MI

“ Margarito Cervantez III lit a candle in memory of Rev. Msgr. Lawrence John Matula



Margarito Cervantez III - December 26, 2017 at 04:16 PM

BL

“ Rev. Msgr. Matula was a humble devoted servant of God. He played an integral part of our family's spiritual and daily lives. He officiated the renewal of my parent's vows, gave all sacraments and my father's funeral. His sermons were profound and enlightening. We loved him so much that we were eager to assist with church activities. This genuinely kind man will be greatly missed by the Joe Quintero, Jr. Family.

Bonnie L Limbaugh - December 26, 2017 at 04:12 PM

KH

“ *Father Matula officiated at our marriage in 1991  
We had Sister Elizabeth sing at our wedding - the songs were  
beautiful but some a little long. I remember Father dozed off a little  
during one song and when it was over he opened his eyes and  
commented -"whew that was a long one"*

---

**Katherine Helterbridle** - December 26, 2017 at 03:23 PM

JF

“ *A very Holy Man who is loved by many.  
Father, we know when those pearly gates of  
Heaven opened up for you...Mom was there  
to say, "Padre, Welcome Home!"*



---

**Jayme Nunez and family** - December 26, 2017 at 02:43 PM

CG

*Your so right Jayme, Sofie was there to receive him....*

---

**Cathy Villarreal Garcia** - December 26, 2017 at 04:58 PM