

# EVENT PRESS RELEASE

November 1, 2020

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Knights of Columbus Anderson Council 8295, Commemorates Franciscan Father Aubrey McNeil on All Souls Day**



On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Anderson Council 8295 Financial Secretary John McDuffie, Council Trustee Mike Massey and current Pastor Rev. Bob Higgins of St. Mary of the Angels commemorated former Pastor, Franciscan Father Aubrey McNeil who received his eternal reward on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

In the Diocese of Charleston, Fr. Aubrey served as pastor of St. Mary's Church from August 2005 until August 2017, when he became parochial vicar. In Fr. Aubrey's years at St. Mary's, membership increased to over 400 families and he oversaw the construction and completion of a larger church and hall. He was a common sight at interfaith events and at Clean Start, a hygiene program for homeless in Anderson that he helped to found, as well as his pastoral duties at St. Mary's.

On the Holy Day of All Souls, November 1, 2020, a celebration of the soul of Fr. Aubrey and all souls was conducted at **Old Silver Brook Cemetery\*** in Anderson, SC. Those in attendance included current Pastor, Rev. Bob Higgins, the local Knights of Columbus, Anderson Council 8295, and many parish families.

Fr. Aubrey was a graduate of St. Joseph Seminary in Callicoon, N.Y. He held a bachelor's degree in English from Stonehill College in North Easton, Mass., a registered nursing degree in advanced nursing from Southwestern Michigan College in Dowagiac, Mich., and a master's in divinity from Washington Theological Union in Washington, D.C. He was ordained a priest in 1985.

\* **Old Silver Book Cemetery** – established in the 1870's, the historic Silver Brook Cemetery in Anderson, SC is the final resting place for more than 15,000 people. There are no longer any available places for resting souls.



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