

Fr Luis Rey

Green House Colour



Father Luis Rey was the first Parish Priest at Holy Family Parish, Sanderson, Northern Territory.

He was born in Spain and became a priest in the Spanish order of St Anthony Claret. The Claretian priests are a worldwide order of Missionary priests. Their motto is: To Light the Whole World on Fire with the Love of God.

Father Luis came to Australia, from the Philippines, along with another priest Father Julian. They were the first Claretian priests to come to Australia. The priests were invited by Bishop O'Loughlin, the bishop at the time and were the first missionary priests in Australia.

When Father Luis arrived in Darwin, in 1983, the Parish of Holy Family was growing. The school was open and Mass was held in a classroom on Sundays. When the undercover area was built mass was said there. During his time at Holy Family Parish, Fr Luis saw the expansion of Holy Family School, the building of O'Loughlin College and the building of Holy Family Church. He administered the sacraments: Baptism, Reconciliation and Holy Communion to the students of Holy Family School and Parish. He, also, oversaw many Confirmations in the Parish. Fr Luis officiated at funerals and weddings. One marriage was in the undercover area at Holy Family School! He enjoyed the occasions when he married former students to their partners.

Father Luis was multi lingual saying masses weekly in English, and monthly in Spanish, Portuguese and Filipino. He became well known around Darwin as priest at Holy Family Parish.

Father Luis retired after 30 years of dedicated service and moved to Deer Park, Sunshine, Melbourne, Victoria where he lives today.