



Father Danny Murphy is a retired Pastor from Brooklyn NY. A gifted man with a God given talent to inspire and God's gift to us at Holy Cross Church in Vero Beach Florida. This is just one of his inspirational homilies.

Fr. Danny Murphy – Funeral Homily – July 02, 2019

Experts tell us that the last faculty that we lose before we die is our sense of hearing.

Apparently, our sense of hearing stays with us, pretty much until the time of our death.

When I visited Joe last week in the critical care unit of the hospital, a few days before he died, I anointed him and while I was doing so, I leaned as close as I could get to his ear. I

said, "Joe, try hard to listen to the words of this sacrament that you now receive." And I

emphasized the very last words and I will share them with you now. With the help of God, I

hope he heard these words: "By the power granted to me by the Apostolic See, I grant you a

Plenary Indulgence, Joe, and I forgive you all your sins, and I bless you in the name of the

Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit." And then I concluded with this prayer and we'll hear

this prayer at the end of Mass today: Saints of God, come to his aid, hasten to meet him,

angels of the Lord. Receive his soul and present him to God the most high. Joe, may Christ who called you, now take you to himself. May the angels lead you home. Hopefully, knowing that Joe was spiritually prepared for his death, might bring some comfort to you, his family and friends. He was prepared for his death. Another possible way that could bring you comfort would be this: I am going to give you a moment to think of some aspect of Joe's life that impressed you, that inspired you, that enriched you. Not to be shared, this is just a memory of him that you can take with you. And a memory of him, how he lived his life, could possibly enrich your life as well. I will start by just telling you this. When we heard of Joe's death, three different people who knew him well, described Joe in exactly the same way, almost word for word: Joe was a very holy man! What a beautiful description. So hold onto that and think now of a memory you can cherish... (Pause) Dear Lord, memories of others whom we cherish, can help us through difficult times and can enrich our lives by us imitating that life. Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. May Joe's soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.