



## Deacon Joseph R. Kovitch

June 29, 1941 - March 22, 2026

Deacon Joseph R. Kovitch, 84 of Concord Twp, formerly of Mentor, Euclid and New Smyrna, FL, passed away Sunday, March 22, 2026, at David Simpson Hospice House in Cleveland with his loving family by his side. He was born June 29, 1941, in Cleveland.

The high point in his life was being accepted into the Diaconate Program in the Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio. He was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons on May 23, 1998, at St. John's Cathedral in Cleveland.

Deacon Kovitch's Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated on May 24, 1998, at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Mentor. His first diaconal duty was to baptize his grandson, Ryan Collingwood, at St. Mary's on May 24, 1998.

His final diaconal duty was to baptize his great-granddaughter, Gracie Jane Ritchey, on December 28, 2025, at St. Mary's.

All the years in between, he honored his calling and cared for the young and old, especially at St. Mary's and St. Patrick's on Bridge Avenue.

Deacon Kovitch retired in 2011 from St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Mentor after serving as a Deacon for 13 years. Prior to that, he retired in 2000 after 20 years as a Process Manager for the former Bailey Controls

International in Wickliffe.

Joe enjoyed competing in marathons and running road races with his family, golfing with friends, and photography.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years: Angela (O'Loughlin) Kovitch; children: Joseph G. (Marie) Kovitch, Michael (Gil Aurellano) Kovitch, Jeanne (Kenneth) Collingwood and Kevin (Alysia) Kovitch; grandchildren: Zachary (fiancée: Marisa Battaglia) Kovitch, Jesse Kovitch, Alexandra (Greg) Ritchey, Ryan (fiancée: Emily Eckles) Collingwood, Jackson Collingwood, Meredith (Erin Shaughnessy) Kovitch and David Kovitch; and great-granddaughter; Gracie Jane Ritchey.

The family will receive friends for a Vesper Service at 5:00 pm Monday, March 30, 2026, and visitation following the Vesper Service from 5:30 -7:00 p.m. Monday, March 30, 2026, at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 8560 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH, 44060.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 8560 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH, 44060.

Interment will be in All Souls Cemetery, Chardon, OH.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions made to: Reserve Care, P.O. Box 72101, Cleveland 44192, or donate online at [www.hospicewr.org](http://www.hospicewr.org)

Arrangements entrusted to Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060.

Offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com)



# Cemetery Details

## All Souls Cemetery

10366 Chardon Rd.  
Chardon, OH 44024  
(800) 582-6850

# Previous Events

## Vespers

MAR 30. 5:00 PM (ET)

St Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church  
8560 Mentor Ave  
Mentor, OH 44060-5853  
(440) 255-3404

## Visitation

MAR 30. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

St Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church  
8560 Mentor Ave  
Mentor, OH 44060-5853  
(440) 255-3404

## Mass of Christian Burial

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MAR 31. 11:00 AM (ET)

St Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church  
8560 Mentor Ave  
Mentor, OH 44060-5853  
(440) 255-3404

# Tribute Wall



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Deacon Joseph R. Kovitch.*



March 28 at 08:17 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Deacon Joseph R. Kovitch.

March 28 at 08:17 PM



“ *Bob Keeley, Caroline and family purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Deacon Joseph R. Kovitch.*



**Bob Keeley, Caroline and family** - March 27 at 03:05 PM



“ *Charlotte Schuttpelz sent a virtual gift in memory of Deacon Joseph R. Kovitch*



**Charlotte Schuttpelz** - March 26 at 03:08 PM

RB

“ Joe, We went with you and a lot of people from St. Mary's to St. Patrick's to feed the poor. It was very humbling and rewarding. We had a lot of fun with you and Angie over the years at St. Mary's that we will never forget. God Bless you Joe. We will keep you and your family in our prayers. R.I.P. my friend. From Robert and Josephine Bates



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**Robert & Josephine Bates** - March 24 at 10:50 PM

RP

“ We shared many memories from his wonderful children with whom I grew up with in Willoughby Ohio. May your journey to our Lord's arms be a peaceful one! Thanks for all the memories and may your family know you touched many lives in a great way.



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**Ron Poplyk** - March 24 at 10:07 PM