

+OBITUARY+
Monsignor/Br Giles-Bernard (John) Hall EOSF



11.7.1948 - 1.12.2021

It is with a heavy heart we share the sudden passing of Br Giles; Priest, Friar and Hermit on Wednesday, December 1.

Born on the July 11, 1948, was christened as Stanley-John and reared in Launceston area. He attended Brook's High School at Newnham and upon finishing school, he held a range of positions in Retail and the Australian Postal Service. He soon found his niche in the Healthcare Industry. For 23 years he initially worked as a Nursing Aide at Cosgrove Park Aged Care Hospital, then proceeded to qualify as a Hospital Attendant and Technician at Launceston General Hospital and Royal Hobart Hospital.

In his later years he felt called to Religious Life joining the Ecumenical Order of St Francis (EOSF) in 1993, professing vows in 1996 receiving the name Br Giles-Bernard. His ministries included chaplaincy work to seafarers, pastoral care in aged care facilities in Hobart, HIV/AIDS ministry, both at Fairfield Hospital and San Michel Catholic AIDS Hospice in Camberwell, Melbourne.

He also worked for a short period of time with the Daughters of Charity in Melbourne undertaking locums running a shelter for elderly-homeless alcoholics in Wellington Street, Clifton Hill. While in Melbourne he completed his Clinical Pastoral Education Course (CPE).

Later, in the early 2000's the Franciscan Ecumenical Order came under the protection of the Australian Church of Antioch. The Tasmania Archbishop Glenn Taylor invited Br Giles to undertake studies for the Priesthood. He humbly accepted and was ordained in 2008.

Br Giles undertook a variety of clerical ministries including a chaplaincy to the Veterans, conducting home eucharist services and bible/spirituality studies for housebound residents. He performed many Christian marriages and funeral services for people with no particular religious affiliation. He also became a qualified Reiki Practitioner, offering healing, spiritual and sacramental support for many sufferers who lived with chronic and debilitating illnesses.

The last four years of his life Br Giles withdrew to his own hermitage to live-out a period of private meditation and contemplation as a Franciscan Eremitic Friar.

Br Giles will be remembered for his jovial personality, his non-judgemental, openness and acceptance of others, his passion for opera, cooking and more importantly his commitment and call to God's work within the Franciscan charism.

He will be missed but his contribution will always be remembered and appreciated.