



The Reverend John (Jack) S Prater

January 14, 1934 – November 8, 2011

The Reverend John (Jack) S. Prater, 77, of Jesse Road, Plymouth Township, died peacefully at home with his devoted wife, Ingrid, at his side on Tuesday, November 8, 2011. Born January 14, 1934, in Forty Fort, he was a son of the late Willard and Elizabeth Gibbs Prater. He graduated from Forty Fort High School in 1951, and in 1955, obtained a bachelor's degree from Wilkes College, where Jack met his wife, the former Ingrid Forck. They would have celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary on November 23, 2011. The Rev. Prater furthered his studies at the Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria, Va., and was ordained in 1958. He first served Episcopal parishes in both Saint Clair and Minersville. In 1962, he returned to the Wyoming Valley with his family and became the rector of Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, Dallas, where he faithfully served the parish for 35 years. Upon retirement in 1997, The Rev. Prater was named Rector Emeritus. The Prince of Peace congregation honored him by naming the community room after him in June of 2011. During his retirement, Jack was an avid Philadelphia sports fan, and he enjoyed attending the many activities of his children and grandchildren. He was a lifelong member of Grace Episcopal Church, Kingston. The Rev. Prater was active in various committees within the Diocese of Bethlehem and the Back Mountain Ministerium. He and his wife, Ingrid, were active in the Prison Ministry at the State Correctional Institution, Dallas, since 1978. Surviving, in addition to his loving wife, Ingrid, are children, Debbie Chapman, Larksville; Dr. John M. and his wife, Susan, Dallas; Scott W. and his wife, Cathy, Shavertown; brother, The Rev. Willard Prater and his wife, Phyllis, Thomason, Maine; sister, Elizabeth Hough and her husband, The Rev. George, Holidaysburg; 11 grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. Calling hours will be held from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday in the Wallis



Reverend Prater & members of the Prater family at the dedication of the Prater Room this summer.

Room at Grace Episcopal Church, 30 Butler St., Kingston, with a memorial service at 11 a.m. The Rev. John F. Hartman will officiate. The family extends an invitation to a luncheon, at the church, immediately following the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Grace Episcopal Church, 30 Butler St., Kingston, PA 18704, or to Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, 420 Main St., Dallas, PA 18612. Arrangements are entrusted to the Hugh B. Hughes & Son Inc. Funeral Home, 1044 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort.

A Note from Fr. Major

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Prince of Peace Episcopal Church of Dallas,

We are all deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Father Jack Prater at his home early on this morning.

For so many years, Father Jack, along with his wife, Ingrid, served Prince of Peace parish in every sense of the word. Father Jack never wanted to be anything other than a priest, and he took great joy in offering Holy Eucharist

with the parishioners of this church for 35 years after he was called to be Rector. Even in the years following his retirement, he still held this parish family dear to his heart and considered Prince of Peace to be a wonderful home.

What a blessing it was that you honored him, Ingrid and the Prater Family this past June by naming the community room, The Prater Room, and gathering together to celebrate his dedication and service to this parish. Father Jack's simple hope and prayer was to be remembered as a caring priest, and on that day, you gave him the gift of knowing his prayer had been answered.

All of us stand on the shoulders of those who go before us, so please join me today in offering prayers of thanksgiving for the model of faith, leadership and caring provided for us by Father Jack. As he stands before our Lord, may he hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant, well done."

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother, Jack. We thank you for giving him to us, his parish family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before, and this we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God bless you with peace.

Information for those wishing to sing in the joint choir at the memorial service: Music for the Service: Hymns are from the The Hymnal 1982... Processional Hymn 460 Alleluia! sing to Jesus!; Sequence Hymn 671 Amazing Grace vs. 1-3; Sequence Hymn 671 Amazing Grace vs. 4-5; Offertory Hymn 390 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation; Processional (Recessional) Hymn 637 How firm a foundation. Special Music at the Communion, sung only by the Choir: WLP 764 Taste and See - Taste and See http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_GaH8bqr_s Plan to arrive between 10 -10:15 am and be ready to sing at 10:15 am. The choir must be out of the church promptly at 10:30 am. We will practice the special music at communion, review other hymns if time allows. Seating, procession into and out of church. If you are from another church and have vestments, please bring them. If you are in need of vestments, please arrive at 10 for vestment fitting. Please reply by e-mail or phone if you will be part of the choir. Thank you. Any questions or concerns contact Patty Warwick, Minister of Music at Grace Episcopal Church music@gracechurchkingston.org