

Obituary Notice

## **Neville Francis Saunders, priest**

Born and educated in Melbourne , Australia Neville Saunders served with the Australian Army later continuing clerical work with Melbourne Civil Authority. He married in 1979 and together he and Shirley, his wife, worshipped within the Greek Orthodox Church from 1982 to 1989.

In 1989 he was received into the Anglican Catholic Church in Australia and ordained by Bishop Albert Haley into the Holy Order of Deacons on the Feast of Pentecost 1990. Fr Neville served at St. Bede's, Bribie Island and later Caboolture both in Queensland.

Ecclesial division within catholic Anglicanism followed in the wake of 'Deerfield Beach'. Fr Saunders joined with others in 1991 to create the Anglican Catholic Church (Original Province) in Australia.

With the episcopal Authority of Bishop James Bromley he was instrumental in the formation of the parish of St. Benedict, Clayfield. On September 12 1992 he was ordained into the Holy Order of Priesthood at Bar Jai Community Hall , Clayfield by Archbishop Lewis who was then visiting Australia with Bishops Mote and Stephens. Fr Saunders became parish priest for the parishes of St. Benedict, Clayfield ; St. Bede, Caboolture and ChristChurch, Toowoomba diligently serving these parishes until his retirement.

He retired to Townsville in August 1999. The parishes of St. Bede, Caboolture and St. Benedict, Clayfield then combined. In retirement Fr Neville continued to regularly say Mass in his Oratory at Townsville until the year of his death.

Fr Neville Francis Saunders died on August 15 2018.

The Missionary Diocese of Australia honours the memory of Fr Neville Saunders who served the Church well in the fullness of his capacity. We honour him and ask his name be entered in the Years' Mind of every parish.

May he rest in Peace.