Obituary: Father Lloyd Baugh, s.j. (1946-2026)

Father Lloyd L. Baugh died peacefully at Résidence Jean-de-Brébeuf in Richelieu, Quebec on October 14, 2026. He was in his 81st year of life and his 50th year of religious life.

Lloyd was born on April 15, 1946, in the city of Quebec, the only child of Norman George Baugh and Irene Mary McKenna. He grew up in Quebec City, and after finishing high school, studied at Loyola College in Montreal where he obtained a B.A. in 1967 with a major in English Literature. He then obtained an M.A. in English and American Literature at Southern Illinois University in 1969. This was followed by studies at Université Laval in Quebec City until 1973. Between 1973 and 1976 he taught at St. Lawrence CEGEP in Quebec City, with great success.

Lloyd entered the Society of Jesus in Guelph, Ontario in 1976. After completing his novitiate and pronouncing his first vows in 1978, he studied philosophy at the University of Detroit and then taught at the University of Detroit High School. In 1980 he undertook a year of special studies in Communication Arts at the recently founded Concordia University in Montreal. He did his basic course in theology at Regis College in Toronto from 1981 to 1984. After completing the course, he was ordained a priest by Cardinal Gerald Emmett Carter in Toronto in 1984. That same year he was assigned to the Gregorian University in Rome, where he began a graduate programme in Theology and Media Communications. He was awarded the Licentiate degree in 1987 and continued for his Doctorate, awarded in 1993, specializing in theology and film studies, more specifically on Ermanno Olmi and his film The Tree of Wooded Clogs.

Fr. Lloyd stayed in Rome as a professor for over 20 years, also serving as director of campus ministries from 1998-2003 and as an academic administrator from 2012-2014. He served as a member of the editorial board of the journal “Gregorianum” from 2002-2024. He spent two years as International Visiting Jesuit Fellow at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, in 2009 and 2011. After leaving Rome, in 2015 Fr. Lloyd served as a visiting professor at Candler School of Theology of Emory University. Throughout these years he did significant work on Krzrsztof Kieslowski, particularly his film series, Dekalog.

Priestly ministry was always a part of Fr. Lloyd's life in Rome, but beginning in 2016 he made that his main pursuit. Residing at the Gesù Church in Montreal, he did pastoral and spiritual ministry, while at the same time continuing research and publication in his field of studies and serving as guestmaster. He was an assistant pastor at St. Monica's Parish for a few years. In declining health, he retired to the Résidence-Jean-de-Brébeuf in 2023 and passed away in 2026.

Communications was not just an area of studies for Fr. Lloyd. Blessed with numerous friends, he was gregarious and a communicator par excellence in daily life. He mastered many languages, and in Rome spoke not only the Italian required for his studies but also the Roman dialect, thus fully at home in his local priestly ministry. He was known for his ability to penetrate and express the deeper theological reality which was implicitly conveyed by many films. As a professor he distinguished himself by his interest in the many lay and non-Jesuit students who were becoming an ever-larger part of the Gregorian University community.

A key dimension of his declining health was a rapid loss in his ability to communicate with others. But—and this is our Christian hope for Fr. Lloyd—resurrection restores our power of communication and brings it to fulness, in all its depth and all its breadth.

His funeral will be held at the chapel of the Résidence Notre-Dame in Richelieu on Monday, November 2nd at 2 pm. Marc Rizzetto, SJ will preside and Jean-Marc Laporte, SJ will deliver the homily.