

MEMORANDUM
FROM: THE FABC CENTRAL SECRETARIAT
TO: THE FABC FAMILY
DATE: 7 JANUARY 2019
SUBJECT: THE PASSING OF FR. RAYMOND L. O'TOOLE, SFM

In an email dated 6 January 2019, we received the following message from Fr. Jack Lynch, General Superior of SFM (Scarboro Foreign Missions) in Canada:

Our brother Ray passed away last night. I was with him a few days ago at the Jesuit nursing facility where he been since returning to Canada. He was relaxed and looking forward to going to Nova Scotia but on Friday night he took a turn for the worse. One of the nurses saw him about 2.00 AM and he was quite himself. However, the nursing staff found him in a semi-coma at 6.30 AM and he was rushed to the hospital. He passed away last night at 7.35 PM and never regained consciousness. I was with Fr. Bert Foliot, SJ, two of Ray's nieces when he peacefully went home to God. He experienced a major issue with liver failure and internal bleeding. The medical staff did everything possible and gave him superb care.

Fr. Ray was born on November 1, 1938 in Alder Point, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada and was ordained to the priesthood in 1963. After ordination, he worked as a missionary in the Amazon region of Brazil. In 1968 he entered a Master's in Theology Programme in Canada. In 1971 he resumed work in Brazil until 1974 when he returned to Canada. Since that time he had been doing mission work in Canada related to Latin America with special emphasis on Brazil.

In 1988 he was assigned to China/Hong Kong and served for three years as a researcher on Church and society at the Holy Spirit Study Centre in the Diocese of Hong Kong. From 1988 to 1997, he served in various parishes in Hong Kong. From 1997 to 2002, he returned to Canada and served on the leadership of his Society as Assistant General and during which time he was also Director of the Scarboro Missions Inter-Faith Desk.

In 2002 Fr. Ray arrived again in Hong Kong and served the English speaking community at two Parishes on the week-ends. In 2005 he was appointed Assistant Secretary General for the FABC and later Secretary General in 2012 until the present.

We will inform you about funeral arrangements when they become available.

Please remember Fr. Ray in your Masses and prayers.