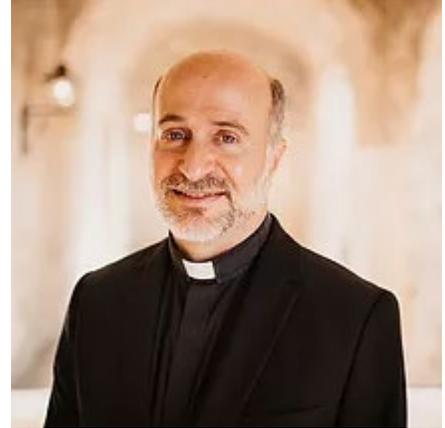


***Father Michael Bouzigard, SJ, dies suddenly December 1; served at Mission Concepción, Assumption Seminary, and archdiocesan administration***

Father Michael Bouzigard, SJ, priest administrator of Mission Concepción and director of the archdiocesan Office of Clergy Ongoing Formation as well as spiritual director at Assumption Seminary, died suddenly at Methodist Metropolitan Hospital the afternoon of December 1 after being transported there in an emergency call.



A native of New Orleans, Father Bouzigard was raised in a family of seven children, having lived in several states and foreign countries. His parents, Dr. Ray and Yvonne Bouzigard, reside in North Carolina. Father Bouzigard studied international development and theology at the University of Oxford. Working with the poor in Mexico, the Philippines, El Salvador, Belize and Nicaragua deepened his commitment to serving the marginalized through pastoral ministries, teaching, and research in economic development issues, particularly within forced migration and Catholic social thought.

At Loyola University New Orleans, Father Bouzigard worked in Campus Ministry and as research fellow for the Jesuit Social Research Institute (JSRI), later serving as assistant professor in the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies teaching economics and Catholic social teaching for the University Honors Program.

Father Bouzigard also lectured at the University of Central America (UCA) in Managua, Nicaragua, as a visiting professor of theology and professor of Applied Local Economic Development. In 2010, he was assigned to the Provincial Office of the Jesuits as international assistant and associate province treasurer, while also serving as parochial vicar at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in New Orleans.

From 2013-2019, Father Bouzigard variously ministered as local Jesuit superior in San Antonio, pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish downtown, dean of the West Urban Deanery, and spiritual director at Assumption Seminary.

Father Michael was residing at the seminary, continuing as spiritual director and serving in his new role in the Department of Clergy and Consecrated Life at the Pastoral Center of the archdiocese.

According to the Mission Concepción website, Father Bouzigard enjoyed cycling along the River Reach; fishing whenever he had a chance; watching (mostly foreign) films; and relaxing with good books.

Funeral services are pending and will be coordinated by the Jesuits.

Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller, MSpS, was presiding at the 9:30 a.m. televised liturgies from Catholic Television of San Antonio in St. Joseph's Chapel December 2 through 4 in memory of Father Bouzigard, who was also a celebrant for the televised Masses.