

## CELEBRATING THEIR LIVES



**WILLIAM JORDAN**

DECEASED FEBRUARY 1, 2013



**LARRY PRICHARD**

DECEASED APRIL 9, 2013

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2013

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

5930 WOODWARD, DETROIT MI

### **WILLIAM CHARLES JORDAN**

**Deceased: February 1, 2013**

William grew up on the North End of Detroit. He spoke of attending Northern High School. For the last few years, Rosary has been “home” for William. When he wasn’t walking all over the City, pausing at favorite spots, he was around Rosary. He seemed to see himself as a security guard, in the church and around the property. As he joined in with the congregation more and more, he gained friends. He had “spots” in the rear of the church and the rear of the chapel where he stationed himself. Regardless of the weather, he spent nights on the street, bundled up in the garments he carried with him, using an umbrella to shield him and to direct steam from gratings to provide warmth. He died of a heart attack in the bus stop at Cass and Amsterdam.

### **LARRY DEAN PRICHARD**

**JULY 16, 1961 – APRIL 9, 2013**

Larry was born in Oregon and came to Detroit after touring most of the West Coast and the Middle West. After a while here, Larry, a double amputee, found enjoyment wheeling around the neighborhood of Rosary. For a while, Larry “camped out” in the Rosary backyard each evening with friends. With some help from Rosary he was able to secure an apartment. With the help of caregivers—first JR Whitaker, and more recently Nate Robertson—he managed to maintain his life style in a secure setting. He died peacefully in his sleep from heart disease.

## Our Memorial Service

Hymn: Swing Low Sweet Chariot

#704

Welcome

Deacon Bob Delbeke

First Reading

Mr. Nathaniel Robertson

**Jeremiah 29: 11-14**

**I know well the plans I have in mind for you,  
Plans for your welfare, not for harm!  
Plans for a future full of hope,  
When you call me, when you pray to me,  
I will listen to you.  
When you look for me, you will find me.  
Yes, when you seek me with all your heart,  
You will find me with you.**

**The Word of the Lord**

Response to Reading

#572

**The Lord is my Light**

Second Reading

Mr. Norbert Kidd

**Introduction: So you want to know more of God's kindness and peace? Then learn to know God better and better. For as you know God better and better, God will give you, through his great power, everything you need for living a truly good life.**

**(2 Peter 1:2)**

**1 John 1: 1 – 4**

**Even though Christ was alive  
At the beginning of time,  
I myself have seen him with my own eyes  
And I have listened to him speak.  
I have touched him with my own hands.  
He is God's message of Life.  
This one who is life from God has been shown to us  
And we guarantee that we have seen Him;  
I am speaking of Christ who is eternal Life.  
He was with the Father and then was shown to us.  
Again I say, we are telling you  
About what we ourselves  
Have actually seen and heard,  
So that you might share  
The fellowship and the joys we have with the Father  
And with Jesus Christ his son.**

**The Word of the Lord**

**Alleluia!**

**John 6: 17 -59**

**Some, whom the Father called, will come to me and I will never, ever reject them. For I have come here from heaven to do the will of God who sent me. It is the will of God that I not lose even one of those he has given me, but that I should raise them to eternal life on the last day. It is my Father's will that everyone who sees his Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and that I should raise him on the last day.**

**How earnestly I tell you this—anyone who believes in me already has eternal life. Yes, I am the bread of life. I am the Living Bread that came down from Heaven. Anyone eating this Bread shall live forever; this Bread is my flesh given to redeem humanity.**

**Jesus preached this sermon in the synagogue in Capernaum.**

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Remarks / Memories**

**The Our Father**

**The Final Blessing**

**Closing Song**

**#729**

**When the Saints Go Marching In**

**Wandering and Wondering  
(A Reflection on knowing William and Larry)**

**In the City, too often people are bypassed-  
By fast moving cars -By fast moving people.  
They blend into a vague background  
Sometimes provoking laughter, fear, pity.  
But they are rarely seen as individuals.**

**William and Larry spent much of their lives  
wandering.  
Who knows the paths they traveled which finally  
brought them here?**

**And we were wondering.**

**Who are they? What is their story?  
How do we fit in?**

**William and Larry wandered the streets of Midtown.  
Their wandering paths crisscrossed many times—  
Woodward, Milwaukee, John R.  
Each carried the essentials with him all the time—a  
little money, a little nourishment, an awareness of the  
streets, a repertoire of survival skills.**

**Their wanderings brought them to Rosary—a place  
where they were recognized, made friends, and took  
on some of the dignity they deserved.**

**In their own ways they knew God guided their  
wanderings.**

**As they wandered around Rosary they knew they  
had a place of safety, a place where they could get  
some food, a little change, acceptance. Rosary was a  
place to spend the afternoon away from the roar of  
traffic and stares of people. Here they could sleep in  
the yard, stand guard, watch, listen.**

**And we wondered—Do they need medical help? Can  
we find them places to stay? Is that coat warm  
enough? Can that wheelchair be upgraded? How can  
William stretch out over a steaming grate on the  
street and wrap himself in a cocoon of warmth? How  
can Larry handle the paperwork in order to get a  
place to stay?**

**Their wanderings continued. Day by day they met challenges, lived their lives, survived. Now, unexpectedly, their wanderings have ended weeks apart. They have wandered one last time.**

**They are home.**

**But our wonderings will continue.**

**Even though we know the outcome of the stories of William and Larry, we will continue to wonder about others we meet, get to know, accept, assist. Are they well? What do they need? Are they hungry? Are they sick? How are we called to respond to each individual?**

**The wanderings of William and Larry will keep us wondering as we ourselves wander through life.**