



## Fr. Victor Vincent "Vic" Cavalli O.P.

September 23, 1921 - February 5, 2016

Fr. Vic died peacefully at home, surrounded by the friars of his Dominican community, at St. Dominic Parish, in Benicia, CA. Until illness prevented him, he was a visible and active minister at St. Dominic's Church, where he served since 1999. Even in his old age, he made "house calls" to the homebound bringing communion and compassion.

Fr. Cavalli was born in Switzerland, came to California as an infant, and was orphaned as a young child. The Dominican sisters of Mission San Jose cared for him at their Albertinum School in Ukiah, and he later attended St. Mary's High School in Berkeley, and St. Mary's College, in Moraga. The young Vic Cavalli entered the Dominican Order in 1942 and was ordained a priest in June, 1948.

He served as pastor of Dominican parishes in Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Benicia, and as director of St. Raymond Retreat Center, in Thousand Oaks. As pastor he was known as a compassionate consoler of the afflicted. Parishioners and friars, including many fellow priests, looked up to him and sought him out for his wise, no-nonsense counsel. Fr. Cavalli will probably be best remembered for the years he spent in Los Angeles, at St. John Vianney (later Daniel Murphy) High School, where he was teacher, Prefect of Discipline, and Principal. His high school students include a former chief of the Los Angeles police force, and a director of the city's fire

department. He said more than once that his greatest joy was bringing Christ to the children.

Funeral Services: Thursday February 11th, at St. Dominic Church, Benicia, CA: 4:00 to 6:30 pm Viewing and 7 pm Vigil Service. Friday, February 12th, at St. Dominic Church, Benicia, CA: 10:00 am Funeral Mass, followed immediately by burial at St. Dominic Cemetery, Benicia, CA, followed by a reception. To honor the memory of Fr. Vic, gifts made be made securely online at [opwest.org/frvicmemorial](http://opwest.org/frvicmemorial) to support the education of future Dominican priests and brothers.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Marlene Stahl lit a candle in memory of Victor Cavalli*



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**Marlene Stahl** - April 21 at 06:42 AM



“ *Fr. Victor Vincent "Vic" Cavalli O.P.*

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November 29, 2022 at 08:20 PM



*He was very kind to me and always gave me a lot of encouragement to follow my dreams*

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**Marlene Stahl** - April 21 at 06:41 AM



“ *Victor, “Fr. Cavalli” had a big and positive influence on me. We became good friends a few years after I graduated from St. John Vianney H.S. He saw in me what few people did and with his encouragement and counsel I became a Professor at a prestigious University in England and in France. I finished work on my Doctoral degree by his encouragement, firmness, and helpfulness. His influence also helped me to to get a position as a Professor of Comparative Literature. I have thought of him so often after losing touch with him in the late ‘90’s. Rest In Peace my friend, teacher, Principal and Mentor.*

*Jon Falconer, PhD*

*St. John Vianney, class of ‘66*

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**Jon Falconer, PhD** - August 28, 2018 at 07:30 PM

PS

“ Just found out about his passing. He was a most wonderful priest and principal.

*St. John Vianey High School was a very formative part of my life and Father*

*Cavalli was a wonderful part of that experience. I remember his line, "We want you to grow up to be people of character. Not just a bunch of characters." May he rest in peace. We all have benefited from his example of dedication to Catholic to Catholic life. Still remember his laugh.  
Pete Sheridan Class of '65*

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**Pete Sheridan** - April 21, 2016 at 02:58 PM

HD

*Just found out about his passing. He was a giant among men. Part of who I am today is a result of the influence he had in my life. He was a man who taught compassion and patience but most of all respect for the fellow man. I will always remember father Vincent Cavalli has he was a second dad to me. May he rest in peace Sonny Davis class of 69*

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**Harry Sonny Davis** - February 04, 2017 at 08:58 AM

DC

“ *Dear Family of Father Vincent "Vic" Cavalli,  
I am sorry for your loss. Father Cavalli was a very dedicated, intelligent and compassionate man. He was a fair, strict disciplinarian when he served as Principal of St. John Vianey/Daniel Murphy High School. As a former student, class of 1966, I learned a lot from him and also cultivated much respect for him. He never wavered and was always consistent. He was a strong educational and spiritual leader. He will be missed. God bless him.  
Sincerely,  
Daniel Cochario*

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**Daniel Cochario** - February 17, 2016 at 03:00 PM

MA

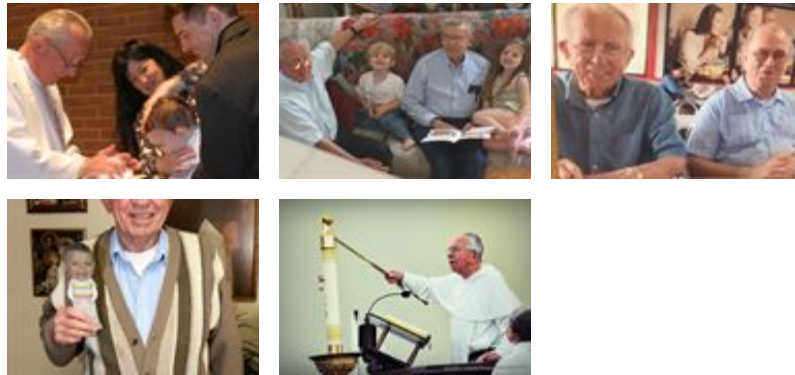
“ Mary lit a candle in memory of Fr. Victor Vincent "Vic" Cavalli O.P.



Mary - February 13, 2016 at 12:19 AM



“ 114 files added to the album Life Tributes



Passalacqua Funeral Chapel - February 11, 2016 at 04:34 PM