

## **FR. DANEIL SHIRAK: MEMORY ETERNAL!**

*January 23, 1955 – February 19, 2023*

It is most lamentable for us that we have so suddenly and unexpectedly lost such a great soul as our much beloved Priest Fr. Daneil Shirak, who fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:20 pm, at the Henry Ford-Wyandotte Hospital, after his third week-long hospitalization in the previous six weeks. He had just turned 68 years-old on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

On Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of January, Fr. Daneil was diagnosed with fourth-stage pancreatic cancer, and the rapidly-growing cancer took him from us before his chemotherapy could begin. Fortunately, helping him to prepare his soul for his departure, he was blessed to have been able to receive the Sacred Mysteries of Holy Confession, Holy Communion and Holy Unction on Thursday February 16<sup>th</sup> with Fr. Lawrence Bacik of St. Elias Church in Battle Creek, and on Saturday February 18<sup>th</sup> with Fr. Gregory Joyce, of St. Vladimir Church in Dexter/Ann Arbor and Dean of the ROCOR Michigan Deanery.



Having been born on January 23, 1955, Fr. Daneil grew up at the original downtown-Detroit St. Michael the Archangel Church, where his grandparents were among the founders in 1926. Bishop Clement Tonsured him a Reader in 1986 and Ordained him a Deacon at St. Michael's Church in Redford, at a Presanctified Liturgy during Great Lent in 1989. After serving as a Deacon at St. Michael's for about 20 years, he then transferred to nearby St. Innocent of Irkutsk Church, also in Redford, where he served for about ten years, first as a Protodeacon, and then as a Priest. After having served the Lord as a Deacon and Protodeacon for twenty-three years, he was Ordained to the Sacred Priesthood by Archbishop Justinian on July 22, 2011 at St. Innocent Church. Fr. Daniel endeared himself to people by his quiet, calm, peaceful, loving and caring manner, and his deep personal faith and heartfelt-devotion to the Lord and serving Him in his Holy Orthodox Church.

During Great Lent 2018, Fr. Daneil was put on loan to ROCOR by the Moscow Patriarchal Parishes, and he served several parishes, and was officially assigned as the Assistant Priest at the Dormition Cathedral in Ferndale, in order to serve the English-speaking parishioners and enhance the English ministry there.

His secular employment included working at General Motors for many years until his early retirement around 2009. He then worked at Advance Auto shop until he officially retired in the middle of last month, when he was diagnosed with cancer.

The Divine Services for Fr. Daneil's repose were the Burial of a Priest and Memorial Liturgy at his Ferndale church on Thursday, February 23, with Fr. Gregory Joyce presiding, and a Memorial/Parastas/ Panikhida served at St. Michael's Church in Redford on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> with Fr. Timothy Barna presiding.

Surviving Fr. Daneil are his devoted wife of over 50 years, Matushka Debra, and daughter Corrina, who lived with her parents. Also surviving him are two sons, daughter-in-law and two grandsons.

May the Lord grant peace to His newly departed Priest Daneil and make his  
***MEMORY to be ETERNAL!***