Father Donald Sella

FAJARDO, Puerto Rico A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 8 in Santiago Apostle Cathedral here for Father Donald J. Sella, a retired priest of the Diocese of Paterson, who died Nov. 4 in Puerto Rico, where he had lived in retirement.

A native of Paterson, Father Sella was a former Capuchin brother. He was graduated from the former Don Bosco College, Newton, and attended the former Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington, and St. Mary Seminary and University, Baltimore, where he received theology and divinity degrees.

He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Rodimer in 1983 in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson.

After serving on the faculty at DePaul Catholic High School in Wayne, he served as a parochial vicar at St. John's Cathedral, Blessed Sacrament Parish, St. Joseph Parish and St. Therese Parish, all in Paterson. He was named pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Paterson in 2003 by Bishop Rodimer. He resigned for health reasons and retired in 2008.

Survivors include his mother and a brother.

Burial was to take place in New Jersey.