



City of Chicago



O2019-1409

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	3/13/2019
Sponsor(s):	Harris (8)
Type:	Ordinance
Title:	Honorary street designation as "Fr. Larry Duris Way"
Committee(s) Assignment:	Committee on Transportation and Public Way

**City Council Meeting
March 13, 2019**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

SECTION 1. That an ordinance heretofore passed by the city council which authorizes erection of honorary street name signs, the commissioner of transportation shall take the necessary action or standardization of 9015 S. Harper Ave., to be known as **“Fr. Larry Duris Way”**.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force hereinafter its passage and publication.



MICHELLE A. HARRIS
ALDERMAN, 8TH WARD



MICHELLE A. HARRIS
ALDERMAN, 8TH WARD

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COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

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(CHAIRMAN)
BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
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February 19, 2019

Office of Budget and Management
121 N. LaSalle, Room 604
Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Michelle Harris, Alderman of the 8th Ward, hereby authorize the Office of Budget Management to withdraw the funds associated with the cost of installation for this honorary street designation for "**Fr. Larry Duris Way**" from my:

x Ward's annual menu program budget

Ward's aldermanic expense allowance

upon passage of this honorary street designation ordinance, pursuant to Section 2-8-040 of the Chicago Municipal Code.

Sincerely,

Michelle Harris
Alderman, 8th Ward

BIOGRAPHY OF FATHER LAWRENCE M. "LARRY" DURIS

Rev. Lawrence M. "Larry" Duris died unexpectedly on February 19, 2018. He was 74 years old. Fr. Duris had ministered as pastor of St. Ailbe Church since 2009. Fr. Duris was born on March 7, 1943 in Chicago. He attended St. Anthony School in Cicero, IL., St. Peter Catholic School in Skokie, IL., and Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago. Fr. Duris earned a Master's degree in 1969 from the University of St. Mary of the Lake / Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill. He was ordained into the priesthood on May 14, 1969 by John Cardinal Cody, Archbishop of Chicago, and celebrated his first Solemn Mass at St. Peter Catholic Church in Skokie, IL., on May 18, 1969.

After ordination to priesthood, Fr. Duris served as assistant pastor of St. Ethelreda Parish on Paulina Street in Chicago (1969-71) and Holy Cross Parish on 65th Street in Chicago (1971-76). He then served as administrator (1976-80) and pastor (1980-91) of St. Laurence Parish on Dorchester Avenue in Chicago. Fr. Duris became dean of Vicariate VI (Mid-Southside City) from 1987 through 1995. In 1991 he served as pastor of St. Philip Neri Parish on 72nd Street in Chicago from 1991 through 2009 when he became pastor of St. Ailbe – his last assignment.

Rev. Robert Heidenreich, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Winnetka, IL., who knew Fr. Duris since high school and described him as a very good pianist. Fr. Heidenreich recalls Fr. Duris' love for the black community since the seminary days. "Whenever he had time, when we were off, or on a break, he would visit one of the parishes in the black community. He had a very good pastoral approach to life," added Fr. Heidenreich.

Bishop Francis Kane, vicar of Vicariate II, remembers his classmate as a quiet man with a great sense of humor. When a deadline would loom on some project, Bishop Kane recalls that Fr. Duris would be calm and unperturbed while the rest of his classmates were panicked. "Then, he would somehow manage to get it all put together at the last minute and the results would be spectacular." Added Bishop Kane, "I will miss him and I think the African-American community will miss him as well."

Alyssa Mostyn, Principal of St. Ailbe Catholic School, had the opportunity to know Fr. Duris. "Fr. Larry was a gentle soul but so fiercely dedicated to helping those in his community," said Mostyn. "He loved being in the black community and worked tirelessly to serve all." Mostyn added that Fr. Duris "affectionately called the local Jewel his 'ministry center.' In true Fr. Larry form, his grocery trips took

much longer than the average person's because of how many people he stopped to listen to, talk to, and minister to." "His dedication to the neighborhood was palpable. He never stopped inviting all, Catholic and non-Catholic, to everything St. Ailbe had to offer," said Mostyn. "He was dedicated to Catholic education and saw the school as the primary way to spread the Word of God to young people."

While working primarily in parish ministry since ordination, he supported several community organizations including working on the United Power for Action and Justice Affordable Housing Board. He was involved with many ministerial activities, including Worldwide Marriage Encounter, the Presbyterian Council, United Power for Action and Justice, the Association of Chicago Priests Coordinating Board, coordinating overnight sessions with the Cardinal and priests ministering in the Black Community, and serving on various advisory boards, such as the Augustus Tolton Scholarship Program Board at Catholic Theological Union. In January of 2016 he was presented the Pope John XXIII Award for Outstanding Ministry by the Association of Chicago Priests. His leisure interests include Black History, Music, Drama, Art and Architecture. Fr. Duris took great joy in cooking for others, appreciated art, and cherished his dog, Max, a Labrador Retriever. Max found a loving home with one of Fr. Duris' parishioners.

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich presided at a vigil service on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 followed by the Funeral Mass on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 11 a.m. at St. Ailbe Church, 9015 South Harper Avenue in Chicago, IL and his body laid to rest at Holy Sepulchre in Alsip, Ill.

REASON FOR HONORING FR. LAWRENCE M. "Larry" DURIS:

Fr. Lawrence M. "Larry" Duris was a tireless public servant who earned the respect and love of all whom he served. He was learned scholar and humble leader. His passion for serving the Black community on Chicago's southside will be remembered by those he married, baptized, counseled and taught; Catholics and non-Catholics; believers and unbelievers for a long time to come.



Google Maps 9015 S Harper Ave





