



## Father Ambrose Chinnappa

October 28, 1959 - October 17, 2021

Rev. Ambrose Chinnappa, a priest of the Diocese of Tyler and pastor of St. Luke Parish in Wills Point, passed away on October 17, 2021, in Tyler at age 61.

Visitation, including the Office for the Dead and a Rosary, will be held on Wednesday, October 20 at 6 p.m. at Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Joseph E. Strickland on Thursday, October 21 at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Tyler.

Father Ambrose was born on October 28, 1959, in Arulambadi, Viluppuram District in Tamil Nadu, India, the son of M. Chinnappan and Apputhamary Chinnappa. After earning an undergraduate degree in English literature from Nagpur University, he began studying for the priesthood and was ordained on November 19, 1988, for the Diocese of Sivagangai.

Priestly ministry in India included service as assistant pastor at St. Mary Basilica in the Archdiocese of Bangalore and assistant pastor at St. Thomas Cathedral in the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore. He was pastor of churches in Gwalior and Maharaniapur in the Diocese of Jhansi, and pastor at St. Joseph Parish in Soosaiapparpattinam in the Diocese of Sivagangai.

Father Ambrose came to the United States in 1996 and served as assistant pastor of St. Vito Parish in Mamaroneck in the Archdiocese of New York.

In 2000, Father Ambrose moved to the Diocese of Tyler. He served as administrator of Sacred Heart Mission in Rusk and administrator of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Daingerfield. Father Ambrose became a priest of the diocese in 2005. He served as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Mt. Vernon and as pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Clarksville. In July of 2020, he was named pastor of St. Luke Parish.

Father Ambrose is survived by four sisters and many nieces and nephews in India.

In remembrance of Father Ambrose, charitable donations may be made to Catholic Charities – Diocese of Tyler, P.O. Box 2016, Tyler, Texas 75710.

# Previous Events

## Rosary and Visitation

OCT **20**. 6:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home  
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy  
Tyler, TX 75703  
(903) 581-2008

## Funeral Mass

OCT **21**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
423 S. Broadway  
Tyler, TX 75702

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Father Ambrose Chinnappa*



---

**Stewart Family Funeral Home** - October 20, 2021 at 06:20 PM

JO

“ *Joe lit a candle in memory of Father Ambrose Chinnappa*



---

**Joe** - October 19, 2021 at 12:43 PM