



Fr Bernard McFadyen SM

13.12.1940 - 7.5.2026

Bernard Charles McFadyen, son to Eric and Mavis, and brother to Marcia and Neville, was born in Bellingen, on New South Wales mid north coast, on Dec 13, 1940. Eric was a hairdresser.

After primary education in Dorrigo, Bernard went to St John's College, Woodlawn, for his secondary schooling from 1953–57.

Young Bernie joined the Society of Mary at the end of his schooling, entering the Marist novitiate at Glen Davis in 1958 and was professed as a Marist on Feb 5, 1959. Following studies for the priesthood at St Peter Chanel's Scholasticate, Toongabbie, NSW, he was ordained at St Patrick's, Church Hill, Sydney, on Jul 11, 1964.

Ear-marked for the education apostolate Fr Bernie was spent 1965 in education and pedagogical training with the Marist Brothers at their Dundas Scholasticate, Sydney. From 1966-68 he worked on the staff of St John's College, Woodlawn, NSW, and in 1969 moved to Marist Regional College, Burnie, Tas, where he spent the next eight years. During his college years he held a variety of responsibilities in the studies, discipline and boarding areas.

From 1977-79 Fr Bernie attended University of NSW, Sydney, and gained a BA. In 1980 was appointed to St Paul's College, Bellambi, NSW, as teacher and superior. In 1985 he was called back to Burnie as community superior and deputy principal.

A change in ministry came in 1988 when Fr Bernie moved to Ashgrove and commenced parish work. In 1990 he was appointed parish priest of Star of the Sea parish, Burnie, Tas, where he worked for seven years before moving to St Paul's parish, West Sunshine, Vic, for a further six years. At the end of this time he was reappointed to Burnie and later to Gladstone, Qld.

In latter years Fr Bernie joined the staff of St Patrick's, Church Hill, Sydney.

In all his parish ministry he was known as a hard-working, dedicated confrere., especially close to the sick and frail to whom he gave much time and energy.

As health declined, Fr Bernie moved briefly to the community of Montbel, Hunters Hill, before becoming a resident at St Paul's Aged Care facility, Northbridge, Sydney, where he died peacefully on May 7, 2026.

May he rest in peace.