

# Cardinal JOHN PATRICK FOLEY †

(1935-2011)



**Grand Master Emeritus of the  
Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem**

**Cardinal-Deacon of San Sebastiano al Palatino**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Title</i>
11 Nov 1935	born	to John Edward and Regina (Vogt) Foley, at Fitzgerald-Mercy Hospital in Darby, PA
1949	graduated	Holy Spirit Elementary School, in Sharon Hill, PA
1953	graduated	from St. Joseph's Preparatory School in Philadelphia, PA
1957	B.A. History	<i>summa cum laude</i> , from St. Joseph's University, in Philadelphia, PA
1958	B.A. Philosophy	from Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary (Archdiocese of Philadelphia)
23 Sep 1961	ordained Deacon	for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
19 May 1962	ordained Priest	of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia – by John Cardinal Krol
1962-1963	assigned	assistant pastor, Sacred Heart Church, Manoa, Havertown
1963-1965	assigned	graduate studies, Rome Rome correspondent, <i>Catholic Standard &amp; Times</i> (archdiocesan newspaper);
1964	Ph.L.	from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (“Angelicum”)
1965	Ph.D.	<i>cum laude</i> , from Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (“Angelicum”) dissertation: <i>Natural law, Natural Right and the "Warren Court": A Study of Recent Decisions of the Supreme Court of the USA</i>
1966	M.S. Journalism	<i>magna cum laude</i> , from Columbia University, in New York, NY
1966	assigned	assistant pastor, St. John the Evangelist Church, Philadelphia; faculty, Cardinal Dougherty High School resident, St. Bernard Church, Philadelphia
1966-1974	co-producer/co-host	Philadelphia Catholic Hour, on WFIL radio
1967	appointed	assistant editor, <i>Catholic Standard &amp; Times</i> (archdiocesan newspaper)
1967-1984	assigned	faculty (philosophy), Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary
1968-1983	appointed	regional board of directors, National Conference of Christians and Jews
1969-1984	appointed	news secretary, National Conference of U.S. Catholic Bishops (now USCCB)
1970-1984	appointed	editor, <i>Catholic Standard &amp; Times</i> (archdiocesan newspaper)
18 Jan 1976	named Monsignor	Prelate of Honor of His Holiness

1976	appointed	board of governors, 41 <sup>st</sup> International Eucharistic Congress
1977-1984	appointed	board of directors, Catholic Press Association of the U.S. and Canada
1979-1984	elected	vice-chairman, Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission
1979	appointed	press liaison, visit of Pope John Paul II to Ireland and the U.S.A.
1980	appointed	press liaison, International Synod of Bishops (Rome)
1981-1984	elected	vice-president, Catholic Press Association of the U.S. and Canada
9 Apr 1984	named by Pope John Paul II	President of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications Titular Archbishop of Neapolis in Proconsulari
8 May 1984	ordained Bishop	by John Cardinal Krol; co-consecrators: Bishop Martin Lohmuller and Bishop Thomas Welsh
1984-1989	appointed	President, administrative council of the Vatican Television Center Member, Pontifical Commission for Latin America Member, Pontifical Council for Culture
2 Apr 2005	upon the death of Pope John Paul II, appointment ceases	President of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications
21 Apr 2005	confirmed	President of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications
27 Jun 2007	appointed	Pro-Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem
24 Nov 2007	elevated to Cardinal named	by Pope Benedict XVI Cardinal-Deacon of San Sebastiano al Palatino
27 Nov 2007	installed	Cardinal-Deacon of San Sebastiano al Palatino
22 Dec 2007	appointed	Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem
2008	appointed	Member, Congregation for Divine Worship & the Discipline of the Sacraments Member, Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples
29 Aug 2011	retired	Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem
11 Dec 2011	died	in Philadelphia, PA
16 Dec 2011	funeral / burial	in the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul (Philadelphia, PA)

## AWARDS

- 1984 - St. Francis de Sales Award from the Catholic Press Association
- 1985 - Journalism Alumni Award of Columbia University, New York
- 1990 - Sourin Award of the Catholic Philopatrian Literary Institute of Philadelphia
- 1996 - President's Medal of Holy Family College, Philadelphia

- 1997 - Barry Award of the American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia
- 1997 - Shield of Loyola Award of St. Joseph's University
- 2008 (4/10) - only the fifth person in the 59-year history of the Christopher Awards to receive the Christopher Leadership Award, which recognizes individuals who have set a leadership example in the fields of media, church or government.
- 2009 – Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation Living Stones Solidarity Award on behalf of the Equestrian Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre
- 2011 (4/14) – service award from Catholic Philopatrian Literary Institute of Philadelphia
- 2011 (6/24) - Gabriel Award for lifetime achievement from the Catholic Academy of Communication Arts Professionals
- 2011 (10/25) – Telecare - The Best in Catholic Television®, Award of Excellence, Religious Leader
- 2011 (11/18) – Broadcast Pioneers Person of the Year ([tribute page](#))
- 2012 - Paul VI award for Catechetics
- 2024 – inducted into the Hall of Excellence at St. Joseph’s Preparatory School

### **Honorary Doctoral Degrees**

- St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA (1985)
- Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales, Center Valley, PA (1990)
- The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. (1996)
- Assumption College, Worcester, MA (1997)
- Regis University, Denver, CO (1998)
- John Cabot University, Rome, Italy (1998)
- University of Portland, OR (2007)
- Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH (2010)
- Bethlehem University (2011)

### **Recognitions**

- 1991 – Knight Commander with Grand Cross, Order of the Northern Star, Kingdom of Sweden
- 1991 – Knight Commander with Star of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem
- 1996 – Commander with Grand Cross, Order of Bernardo O’Higgins, Republic of Chile

- 2002 – Chaplain with Grand Cross, Sovereign Military Order of Malta
- 2003 – Commander with Grand Cross, Order of Libertador General San Martin, Republic of Argentina
- 2010 – Bailiff with Grand Cross of Honor and Devotion, Sovereign Military Order of Malta