
In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



DANIEL VENA [VEE-NA], who died at Appleton in 2006, at age 71, after 38 years of religious life.

Born in California, Dan grew up in Indiana. When just six years of age, Dan lost his father. With only an eighth-grade formal education, he entered the workforce in order to provide for his mother. Dan cared for her until she died.

Dan was employed as part of the kitchen staff at Notre Dame University before entering the Order at age 33. He was a very gentle soul and simple person. He loved memorabilia from the past.

Although limited in some respects and at times easily frustrated, Dan was very talented as a cook and as an artist. At both St. Elizabeth's in Milwaukee and St. Bonaventure's in Detroit, he taught art classes to area children. In Milwaukee, he also ministered among the city's senior citizens.

Dan's simplicity often led to humorous anecdotes. Once, when driving to Mt. Calvary for the celebration of his jubilee, he was running late. Focused solely on a timely arrival, there was only one solution: pick up the speed. In spite of the blaring siren and flashing lights of the car behind him, Danny kept up his pace and drove up the Hill, finally coming to a stop on the lawn in front of the chapel. When the police officer approached him, Danny began to berate the officer for not pursuing "real" criminals.

As he aged, Dan required increased health care. He moved to Kaukauna. After experiencing some internal bleeding he was admitted to St. Elizabeth Hospital where he died.

Dan is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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- ✠. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
 - ✠. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them).
 - ✠. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ✠. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

SIMON BINDER [BIN-DER], Third Order brother, who died at Garrison in 1941, at age 59, after 4 years of religious life.

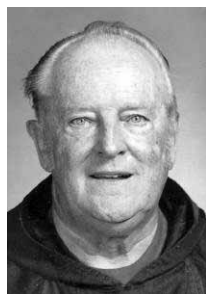
Simon was born in Germany and first joined the Province as a Third Order brother when he was 47 years old. Set in his ways, he found community life difficult and left the community after six months. He re-entered four years later and the adjustment was much easier for him.

Although his knowledge of gardening was meager, the success he achieved annually was due to his almost superhuman efforts. Simon held a deep conviction that he worked for God. Prayer permeated and supported all his efforts.

Simon was a voracious reader of Catholic magazines and papers. He supported the missions with his former earnings, and even paid for the education of two priests, who later went to China as missionaries.

After collapsing in choir, medical tests indicated intestinal cancer. Simon passed away a little after six o'clock in the morning. The priest was preparing for Mass in the infirmary chapel when he was called to Simon's bedside. Quietly he assisted Simon in his final journey and immediately offered Mass for the repose of his soul.

Simon is buried at Yonkers.



CASPAR STOLLENWERK, who died at Green Bay in 1991, at age 71, after 53 years of religious life and 45 years in the priesthood.

Caspar was born in St. Ann, Wisconsin and attended St. Lawrence in Mt. Calvary before joining the Order. Following ordination, he ministered in parishes in Appleton, Milwaukee and Saginaw, and served one term on the provincial council.

Caspar was a very talented preacher and became part of the Mission Band of Capuchin Preachers, the ministry he had for the remainder of his life.

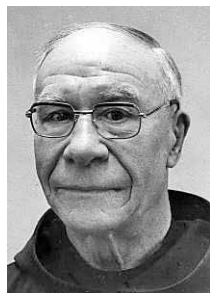
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-

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Caspar had an impressive voice, a famous laugh and a warm personality. He preached from the heart and possessed an array of gestures and facial expressions which enhanced his message. He touched thousands of lives. Most of all, Caspar was a man of integrity, simplicity, loyalty and compassion.

He died while giving a parish mission at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Green Bay and is buried at Mt. Calvary.



ELMER STOFFEL [STUFF-FULL], who died at Fond du Lac in 1992, at age 80, after 61 years of religious life and 54 years in the priesthood.

Elmer was born at Hay Creek, Wisconsin, the second youngest of 10 children. Because enrollment was full, he had to wait until his sophomore year of high school to enter St. Lawrence in Mt. Calvary. There, he was an avid sports fan, played the clarinet in the band, and participated in forensics.

He entered the Capuchin Order and, after ordination, served in our parishes of St. Elizabeth in Milwaukee and Sacred Heart in Yonkers, ministering very successfully with the youth.

Perhaps due to his success with youth, Elmer was then assigned as assistant novice master at Huntington for four years, and as novice master for 12 years, first at Huntington, then Detroit, and finally Baraga, Michigan. Elmer demonstrated great care and concern for the health of the novices.

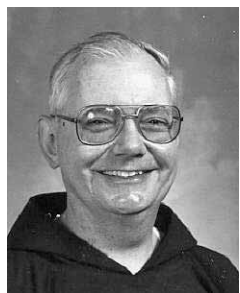
Elmer served one term on the provincial council, while also ministering as pastor of St. Anthony's in Saginaw where he built a new parish hall. After three years as pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Mt. Calvary, he served briefly in Detroit and then at the retreat center in Saginaw, before returning to Michigan's Upper Peninsula to minister among the Native American People at Zeba.

Elmer retired to Mt. Calvary. After being diagnosed with Lou Gherig's disease, crippling deterioration forced his move to St. Francis Home in Fond du Lac. On the morning of December 2nd, Elmer concelebrated Eucharist, was anointed and died in the Lord.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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DOUGLAS BODE [BOH-DEE], who died at Mt. Calvary in 2010, at age 68, after 50 years of religious life.

John Douglas Bode was born in Port Washington, Wisconsin, where he attended St. Mary Elementary School. For high school, he enrolled at St. Lawrence Seminary, the beginning of a love affair that lasted his entire life.

He entered the novitiate at Huntington and received the religious name, “Brice”. After profession, he began his seminary studies at Crown Point, but decided not to pursue ordination. Because of the regulations of the time, he had to re-make his novitiate as a non-cleric. He was invested at Baraga, and received the religious name, “Peter”. When he requested permission to make profession, he also asked to change his name to “Stuart”. Later, when given the chance, he resumed the use of his baptismal name and became known as Doug.

After Doug completed initial formation, he was assigned to Detroit where he served in the Mission Office, first as business manager, and later as procurator and provincial delegate of the Seraphic Mass Association. During his ten years in Detroit, Doug showed great dedication to the work of the Capuchin Missions.

To prepare himself for a new ministry, Doug moved to St. Patrick’s Friary in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he ministered in the parish while earning a Bachelor’s Degree in Theology from St. Catherine’s College.

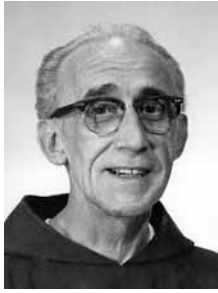
For the last thirty years of his life, he taught theology at St. Lawrence Seminary. He shared with generations of students his faith and the knowledge he had gleaned from a wide-range of reading and study. He showed a depth of compassion and care to the countless students who came to him for spiritual direction.

For more than thirty years Doug suffered from a variety of ailments, and most notably, from Crohn’s Disease. His plan was to retire at the end of the school year. Before the end of the first semester, however, Doug was not looking well, and despite the urging of others to see a doctor, he refused. His condition worsened and he was found unconscious. After being anointed, he was rushed to the hospital where he underwent emergency surgery for a bowel obstruction. He passed away shortly after midnight.

Doug is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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IGNATIUS MILNE [MILN], who died at St. Clair Shores, Michigan, in 1996, at age 75, after 55 years of religious life.

Born on Detroit's east side, Ignatius grew up in a large, happy family. After graduating from St. Charles Borromeo High School, he worked nights in a bowling alley near the monastery. On his way home from work he would attend early Mass at St. Bonaventure's. Soon, he desired to become a Capuchin and entered the candidacy and novitiate in Detroit.

Ignatius was intense, which led him to completely immerse himself in the work at hand. He excelled at cooking, and this became his particular gift, although he also served as tailor, gardener and grounds keeper in various friaries.

Ignatius was the first of our brothers to be sent for formal study in food management at Cornell University. While he tried always to be self-giving and faithful in serving the community, when the work in the kitchen wore him down, a new career as porter blossomed.

Whether at the door or on the phone, Ignatius took a genuine interest in people and felt empathy for their problems. He was ready to be of service in any way he could.

Once, when Ignatius was porter at St. Bonaventure's, he was held up at gunpoint. The culprits were caught, tried and sentenced. Ignatius visited them regularly in jail, brought them cigarettes and candy, promised them prayers and offered them help if they needed assistance after their release.

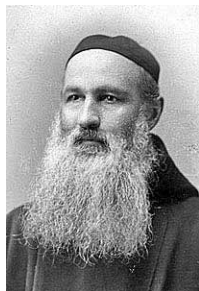
After two other encounters with armed robbers, Ignatius left the front office to serve the cause of Fr. Solanus in the Solanus Guild. Plagued with arthritis and emphysema, he carried on, inspired by Solanus' example of patient suffering.

After repeated bouts of pneumonia, Ignatius required skilled care and moved into Bon Secours Nursing Center. In the morning hours of December 4th, the Lord beckoned him to "Come up higher," and welcomed home his "good and faithful servant."

Ignatius is buried in Detroit.

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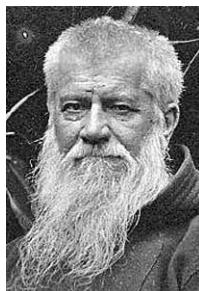
PHILIP SPIES [SHPEES], who died at Mt. Calvary in 1906, at age 67, after 37 years of religious life and 29 years in the priesthood.

When Philip emigrated to America from Germany he settled at Mt. Calvary. He attended St. Lawrence and was one of just six students who remained there after the Great Fire of 1868. They were lodged in the laundry of the Notre Dame Sisters until other arrangements were made.

The 30-year-old Philip was invested with the Capuchin habit in the Sisters' chapel. After ordination, he served at Madonna Parish in New Jersey and then in Detroit where he had charge of the parish in Greenfield. He later served in Appleton and at St. Francis, Milwaukee. His last assignment was to Calvary where he ministered at St. Peter's and St. Joseph's parishes. Philip was a zealous priest and a very enthusiastic preacher.

Perhaps owing to the fact that he grew up during the difficult days of the Province's beginnings, Philip was very austere, almost to a fault. After going out on a sick-call, he came down with bronchial pneumonia and died.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.



DOMINIC MERSMANN, who died at Detroit in 1911, at age 68, after 46 years of religious life and 42 years in the priesthood.

Dominic came to us from Illinois. He began his classical studies with the Franciscans at Quincy, but finished them at Calvary where he received the habit from Francis Haas, who was guardian there at the time.

Dominic was among the first group of students in our Province to have a regular course of philosophical and theological studies, thanks to the gifted educator, Anthony Rottensteiner [ROTE-en-shty-ner].

Dominic remained at Calvary after ordination and served at the Marytown mission. He ministered throughout the Province, both East and West. His sermons were plain, simple, and to the point.

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Although his appearance was stern, Dominic was quite a prankster. He was known to sew the sleeves of habits shut; lean a broom against a friar's door, knock and run away; and drop water balloons from the third floor on friars standing in the courtyard below.

His sense of community was such that he would do whatever was needed around the house, from celebrating Mass to sweeping floors.

Dominic died and is buried in Detroit.

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December 7

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

MSGR. JOSEPH GABRIELS, an Affiliate of the Province, who died on this day in 1966.

Monsignor Gabriels was a priest of the Madison Diocese. For establishing a scholarship for candidates for the Order, he was affiliated to the Province on July 29, 1944.

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FERDINAND ZUBER, who died in Switzerland in 1902, at age 72, after 49 years in the priesthood.

Ferdinand was born in Switzerland and befriended Francis Haas and Bonaventure Frey [FRY] during their seminary days together.

Zuber was involved in the plan to establish the Capuchin Order in America from its very conception. Pastoral responsibilities made it impossible for him to join the initial core group that left Europe for Wisconsin, but the trip was financed in large part by funds collected by Zuber.

When Ferdinand finally arrived in America, like Haas and Frey [FRY], he served for a short time in the Milwaukee Diocese. He was invested by Anthony Mary Gachet [ga-SHAY] at Calvary in November of 1858, and received the religious name, Anthony.

Zuber left the novitiate, but remained in service to the Milwaukee Diocese, ministering mostly in southwestern Wisconsin. In 1864, he entered the novitiate again, under the direction of Francis Haas. Again, however, he did not persevere.

After his departure, Zuber served in the Diocese of Milwaukee for another 15 years. Poor health forced his return to Switzerland where he continued to minister. His last assignment was as chaplain to the Capuchin Third Order Sisters at Wattwil [VAHT-vill].

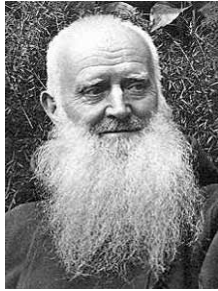
Suffering from heart and kidney problems, he retired, spent the remainder of his days cared for by the Sisters, and died.

Had he remained in the Order, Zuber would certainly have been considered one of the founders of the Calvary Province.

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OTTO KRISMER, who died at Milwaukee in 1926, at age 82, after 45 years of religious life.

Otto was born in Tyrol, Austria. He came to America at age 31 and six years later joined the Capuchins.

He served in a number of our friaries in both East and Midwest, especially at Our Lady of Sorrows in New York and at St. Francis in Milwaukee. He was sometimes assigned as sacristan or porter, but more often than not he was available as an extra hand, making himself available to whatever needed to be done, especially with maintenance or in the kitchen.

Otto always demonstrated a deep respect for the priesthood. Whenever a young priest died, he was deeply moved and would say, "It would have been better if our good God had taken me, old and useless, rather than this young laborer for souls."

Otto was saddened by the slow growth of the Province, and prayed fervently every day for vocations. At age 82, Otto passed to his long-desired eternal reward.

He is buried in Milwaukee.

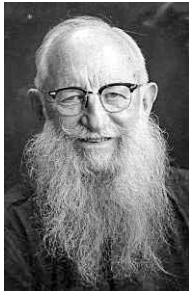


SISTER MARY PETRA WILMER, an Affiliate of the Province, who died on this day in 1940.

Sr. Petra was the blood sister of Capuchin Antonine Wilmer. She joined the Dominican Sisters and was stationed at Rockville Center, Long Island. For long continued charity towards Mary Immaculate Friary and Seraphicate in Garrison, she was affiliated to the Province on February 12, 1936.

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PATRICK BERTHER, who died at Kaukauna in 2001, at age 99, after 74 years of religious life and 67 years in the priesthood.

Pat was born and raised in South Dakota. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy and a teaching certificate from Creighton University in Omaha. He traveled to Detroit where he was hired by the Jesuits to teach History and English at Holy Name High School, and later taught at Holy Name Institute, connected with Blessed Sacrament Church.

At age 26, he heard about the Capuchins, applied, and was invested as a novice.

Following ordination, Pat spent one year ministering at St. John's Parish in New York City before moving to Montana for a "temporary assignment" at Broadus [**BROAD-us**]. He remained there for 40 years.

Pat then served at Ekalaka [**ee-ka-LAHK-ah**] for 16 years before retiring to Ashland.

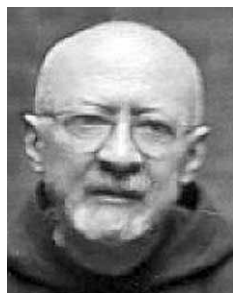
Remembered for his wry wit and sparkling eyes, Pat was very proud of his Swiss heritage, loved to celebrate and have his photo taken, enjoyed fishing, stamp collecting and tatting, that is, making doilies from lace thread.

At age 94, Pat decided to pack up his few possessions, load up his car, and drive himself to our retirement community in Appleton. After spending several years there, his health required a move to St. Paul's Home in Kaukauna where Patrick – one of the American West's last missionary circuit riders – died peacefully in the Lord.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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LOUIS COY, who died at Garrison in 1951, at age 70, after 49 years of religious life.

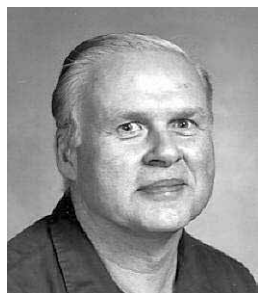
Louis was born and raised in New York City where he belonged to the Capuchin Parish of Our Lady of Sorrows. When the 21-year-old inquired about joining us, he was told that it would be tough and there would be hard work and plenty of it. Louis replied, “That sounds good to me; the more you talk about it, the better I like it.”

Louis served as cook for over 40 years, first at Calvary and Milwaukee and then in the East where he remained for the rest of his life.

With failing eyesight, he retired to Garrison. At first he was overwhelmed by the thought of being useless and a burden to the community. Soon afterward, however, he came to see his disability as an opportunity to become a “powerhouse of prayer.” He constantly prayed the rosary. For even the smallest act of kindness done to him he would pray a rosary in thanksgiving.

His favorite saying was: “We’ll take it as it comes, because it all comes from God.” That sense of serenity carried him through a series of strokes that left him partially paralyzed and with impaired speech. He was found unconscious after having suffered a cerebral hemorrhage. He received the Sacrament of Anointing, and the community gathered around his bedside in prayer. Louis passed away quietly that same evening.

He is buried in Yonkers.



JERALD McDONALD, who died at Madison in 1991, at age 52, after 33 years of religious life and 26 years in the priesthood.

Originally from southern Indiana, Jerry received a full scholarship to attend St. Lawrence Seminary.

After joining the Order, his thirst for knowledge led him to pursue a wide range of courses — from psychology and religious studies to art.

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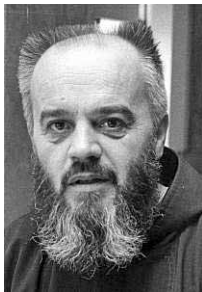
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His assignments included Newman chaplaincies, retreat work, and teaching, but mainly he was a faith-based artist in residence.

Jerry had fond hopes of bringing together all his personal studies and of finding some way to express the insights he gained. Unfortunately, Jerry's life was too short.

He once wrote: "All that is required is that the Master find us working, not that we be completed." Jerry died unexpectedly of a heart attack while stationed at Madison, Wisconsin.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.



JOHN FREIENSTEIN [FRY-IN-STINE], who died at Mt. Calvary in 1998, at age 74, after 27 years of religious life.

John came from Mishawaka [mish-a-WOK-a], Indiana, and spent most of his adult life in service to our county in the Navy and Air Force before entering the Order.

When his military career ended, John worked for an engineering firm. A chance visit to Huntington sparked an interest in the Capuchins.

Apart from one year spent at Crown Point, John served at Huntington and Mt. Calvary.

Besides being physically strong, he was an avid reader. At Huntington he served in the business office and with maintenance. At Calvary he was a work supervisor for the students, working side-by-side with them.

Gradually, declining health took away his golfing, his driving, his ability to work with his hands, and at the end, his ability to walk. John underwent a series of surgeries. After suffering a stroke, he entered a rehabilitation program, but died five days later of liver failure.

Not even poor health could take from John his optimistic and tolerant spirit and his genuine delight in being a Capuchin. He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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IRVIN UDULUTSCH [OO-DIL-LITCH], who died at Kaukauna, Wisconsin, in 2010, at age 90, after 72 years of religious life and 64 years in the priesthood.

Irvin was born in Norwalk, Wisconsin, the second of ten children. His brother, Robert, also became a Capuchin. In grade school, he took piano and violin lessons. He was greatly influenced by his uncle, an alumnus of St. Lawrence College, and enrolled at St. Lawrence.

Irvin entered the novitiate at Huntington. During his college years at Garrison, he was exposed to writings on the liturgical movement which had a profound effect on him.

After ordination, Irvin's first assignment was to St. Lawrence College where he headed the music department. He also taught a course in liturgy in the college department, and provided music instruction at the Brothers' School. Besides instruction, he provided leadership, energy and enthusiasm. Meanwhile, he earned a bachelor's degree in music.

Irvin also began composing religious and liturgical music. He joined the National Liturgical Conference and became the chair of the Midwest Seminary Music Educators Association. He was a contributor to liturgical magazines, and taught summer courses at Loras College and the Catholic University of America.

Irvin's accomplishments in the field of liturgy led to his being chosen as one of the major editors of *Our Parish Prays and Sings*, the first liturgical hymnal in the United States organized primarily around the liturgical year and the sacraments rather than popular devotions. Most of Irvin's efforts were directed to developing vernacular hymns for the liturgical year and Eucharistic celebration, anticipating the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council. He was chosen as an American delegate to the First International Liturgical Conference, a watershed moment in the liturgical movement.

Irvin gave three gifts in particular to the Province: he passed on an appreciation for the principles underlying the liturgy; he encouraged others to develop their talents; and he organized and led the first Provincial Liturgical Commission which has made lasting contributions to the liturgical life of the

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Province.

From Calvary, Irvin became professor of liturgy and music for our theology students at Marathon. He also earned a master's degree from Notre Dame University.

Irvin served one term as provincial councilor, during which time he organized the process which led to the Provincial Renewal Chapter of 1970. Following the Chapter, Irvin was named Director of both Initial- and Continuing Formation. Irvin played a key role in re-defining the philosophy and structures of formation in our Province. He was involved in the process which led to the closing of Marathon as a House of Studies and moving our students of theology to Milwaukee. He solidified the team approach to formation, and was instrumental in establishing solid pre-novitiate and associate programs. He took over the organization and funding of continuing education, and established a system of budgeting and banking. The number of friars enrolled in graduate degree programs increased significantly.

For the next 31 years, Irvin ministered in a number of parishes, was the spiritual assistant to Secular Franciscans, and served on the liturgical commissions of the dioceses of Milwaukee, St. Paul and Green Bay. He celebrated his golden jubilee of ordination in Rome, together with Pope John Paul II who had been ordained the same year.

As a complication of diabetes, Irvin lost his lower left leg. As his health weakened, he entered St. Paul Home in Kaukauna where he spent the last four years of his life.

Irvin was laid to rest in a casket handmade by his brother, Bob. Irvin, a person of great initiative, drive and vision, is buried at Mt. Calvary.

EDMUND LUYCKX [LOYKS], an Affiliate of the Province, who died on this day in 1952.

Edmund owned a Coal Company in Detroit. He was affiliated to the Province on April 2, 1950, for having donated coal to the Soup Kitchen for over a 12-year period.

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DONALD WIEST [WEEST], who died in Detroit in 1997, at age 89, after 70 years of religious life and 63 years in the priesthood.

Donald was born on a farm near Plain, Wisconsin. From early on, he excelled in studies and was an avid reader. He attended St. Lawrence College in Mt. Calvary at the prompting of his pastor, an alumnus. Although he went there with the intention of becoming a diocesan priest, he soon began to admire his Capuchin teachers, which led to his joining the Order.

Interested in music, he learned to play the violin and the zither. Over time, Donald's intellect and ability to do serious research were recognized, and immediately after ordination he was assigned to teach at Calvary. The assignment was short-lived, however when, three weeks later, the superiors sent him to Rome to study Canon Law at the Gregorian University.

Donald earned a licentiate in Rome and a doctorate from the Catholic University in Washington. He also took summer courses in Library Science and Spanish. With the exception of one year during which he was Director of Clerics at Garrison, Donald had only two assignments: Marathon and Detroit. He spent 32 years at our House of Theology in Marathon during which he taught Canon Law and Moral Theology for 25 years, was in charge of the library for 29 years, and edited the provincial Liturgical Calendar for nine years.

When the House of Theology closed, Donald moved to Detroit to begin a second career as provincial archivist and assistant provincial secretary, while also serving as canonical consultant for the Province. He remained in Detroit until his death, 29 years later.

Twice Donald was called upon for his canonical expertise at our General Chapters and played a significant role in the revision of the Constitutions of 1968. The filing system of our provincial Archives, as well as the original procedural norms for our Provincial Chapters are the result of Donald's painstaking genius. He also organized the archives of the Bluefields Vicariate, and wrote the first Statutes of the General Vice Province of Central America.

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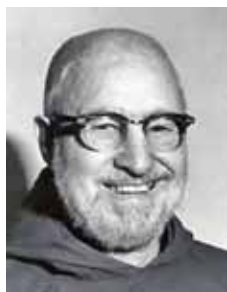
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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
 - ℟. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them).
 - ∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

Donald's analytical mind allowed him to take apart and reassemble the motor of a car. He studied the electrical system of the monastery so thoroughly that blueprints were able to be made from his directions.

In spite of various health problems, Donald remained active to the end, working for the Province and the Order he loved so much. Dedication, determination, drive: these were hallmarks of Donald's life.

He is buried in Detroit.



GABRIEL BADALAMENTI [BA-DA-LA-MEN-TEE], who died at Detroit in 1997, at age 92, after 46 years of religious life.

Gabriel was born in St. Louis, Missouri. The family moved to Detroit when he was six. Gabriel grew up streetwise. After a business venture failed, he became a professional boxer, married and had a son to whom he remained close throughout his life, even though the marriage did not last.

In an attempt to turn his life around, Gabriel moved to San Antonio. Six months later, he was headed back to Detroit. On the way, a friend gave him a pamphlet about the Third Order of St. Francis. Gabriel's life was forever changed.

At the coaxing of newly-appointed missionary, Alvin LaFeir [la-FEAR], Gabriel volunteered for the mission on Guam. The Second World War had just begun. A few months after their arrival on Guam, the Japanese invaded the island and Gabriel, Alvin and nine other American Capuchin missionaries were taken prisoner and interned at Kobe, Japan. It was there that Gabriel showed genuine heroism, often risking his own life to get food and other necessities for his Capuchin brothers.

After their liberation, Gabriel returned to the Province. He served at several of our friaries in various capacities, including temporarily as Solanus Casey's secretary and nurse.

Gabriel's final years were spent at St. Bonaventure's until Alzheimer's forced his placement in a nursing facility.

During the wake, a friend gazed into the casket and remarked, "Now there's a miracle." Gabriel undoubtedly would have smiled and said, "Amen!"

He is buried in Detroit.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
 - ℟. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them).
 - ∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ℟. Amen.
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December 12 (*continued...*)

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



ANTHONY ZAVADIL [ZAV-UH-DILL], an Affiliate of the Province, who died on this day in 1921.

Anthony Zavadil was a professor at Marquette University in Milwaukee. For a nine-year period, he gave weeking instruction to our students in Expression and Public Speaking. He was affiliated to the Province on May 29, 1920.

ANDREAS KREMHELMER [KREM-HELL-MER], an Affiliate of the Province, who died on this day in 1934.

Mr. Kremhelmer was a shoemaker in Detroit and a Secular Franciscan. He gave years of free service to St. Bonaventure friary and chapel, and was affiliated to the Province on June 25, 1927.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



EMMERAN KASTENMAIER [**CAST-IN-MY-ER**], who died in Milwaukee in 1890, just days before his 21st birthday, after one year of religious life.

Francis Haas spent a great deal of time canvassing German-speaking Europe raising funds and recruiting candidates for the Calvary foundation. Fr. Stangl [**STANG-ul**] – a diocesan priest and chaplain at Neuhausen [**NOY-how-zen**], Bavaria – became the foremost promoter of vocations for our Province. Poor families could not afford to send their sons to the seminary in Germany. Through the untiring efforts of Fr. Stangl, Emmeran and others emigrated to America and joined our Province.

Emmeran attended St. Lawrence College and the scholasticate, and then was admitted to the novitiate in Detroit. He was conspicuous for how well he applied himself to his studies and for his readiness to help with any work. He considered each opportunity as a chance to show his appreciation for being able to pursue religious life and priesthood.

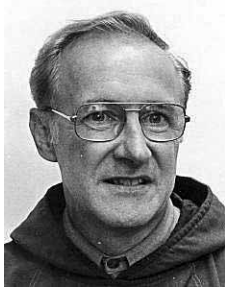
Emmeran made first profession in apparent good health. About six months later, however, symptoms of tuberculosis were evident. The disease developed rapidly and brought about his sudden death.

The friars admired Emmeran for his diligence and regularity, in spite of poor health.

He is buried in Milwaukee.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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 - ∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ℟. Amen.
-

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



JOHN MYERS, who died in Australia in 2005, at age 77, after 59 years of religious life and 51 years in the priesthood.

Jack hailed from Arkansaw, Wisconsin, and attended St. Lawrence College in Mt. Calvary. It was there that the seed of his Capuchin vocation was planted.

Following ordination, he taught at Calvary and then at the Brothers' School in Calvary Station. He served the Province as novice master of the lay brothers in Baraga [BEH-ra-ga] for nine years before a request came from Rome, asking for American Capuchin volunteers to help the Capuchins in Australia.

Jack left for Sydney aboard the steamship, Oriana, together with Roland Dusick, Carmel Flora, Darren O'Rourke and Bede Louzon. Jack loved Australia so much so that eventually he took out dual citizenship.

He served in various capacities: Director of Postulants, pastoral minister, novice master and local minister. Due to his mother's failing health as well as his own, Jack returned to the States where he remained for 11 years, ministering at our parish in St. Paul, and later at the Villa Maria Center in Frontenac, Minnesota.

When he returned "Downunder", Jack served at Perth and then in South Australia, before returning to Wynnum [WIN-um] as chaplain for a home for seniors run by the Sisters of Nazareth.

When the Australian Province established a hermitage in the beautiful rural area of New South Wales, Jack found it an idyllic place for peace, quiet and contemplation. Although he had a history of heart and eye problems, his health began to deteriorate rapidly due to advanced, inoperable cancer.

Jack had a deep concern for others, especially those who struggled with life. Many friars and friends came great distances to be with him in his final days. He died peacefully, and was buried at Plumpton.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
 - ℟. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them).
 - ∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ℟. Amen.

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



LINUS MORRISON, who died in Wauwatosa [wa-wa-TOE-sa] in 1969, at age 70, after 50 years of religious life.

Linus came from St. Johns, Minnesota, and attended St. Lawrence College where his classmates remember him as a quiet, devout, thoughtful, diligent and fun-loving person. He enjoyed outdoor sports, especially skiing and tennis, and possessed an artistic talent for drawing, painting and playing the violin.

After novitiate, Linus went to Marathon to pursue the normal course of studies leading to ordination. Two and a half years later, however, an illness interfered with his ability to concentrate. Despite his illness, he was allowed to make perpetual profession. Shortly thereafter, however, he was hospitalized. It was determined that he was suffering from schizophrenia.

Linus was admitted to the Alexian Brothers' Sanitarium in Oshkosh where he remained for 42 years. During that time, he rarely recognized those who came to visit him. When the Alexians closed their facility in Oshkosh, Linus was moved to St. Camillus Home in Wauwatosa where he died three years later.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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- ✠. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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 - ✠. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ✠. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



ANTHONY WEISER [WISE-ER], who died at Gary, Indiana in 1966, at age 77, after 48 years of religious life.

Tony was born in Germany. His family emigrated to America and opened a bakery in Milwaukee. At age 16, Tony went to work for his father and learned the art of pastry-making and cake decoration. He also learned to play the violin. When the Weiser Bakery re-located near St. Francis Monastery, Tony made it a practice to attend daily Mass there. Eventually this led to his joining the Order.

Cooking and baking were Tony's main duties over the years. His willingness to serve wherever he was needed convinced superiors that Tony was reliable and willing to go anywhere, anytime, under any circumstances. On one occasion, when asked to move, his response was, "I'll be ready in an hour."

Tony especially enjoyed his years in New York City where he befriended a number of Weisers of Jewish descent. In habit and beard and wearing a big round hat, Tony would shop in the Jewish stores and visit his extended family.

Tony had a magnetic personality and expressed his appreciation for even the smallest act of kindness shown to him. He possessed a good deal of common sense and folk wisdom, and often spoke short "pearls of wisdom" that came from his experience. He learned to take the good with the bad, and knew that everything would find its place in God's plan. Tony was also a man of fervent prayer; the rosary his constant companion.

Ton lost his leg to diabetes. His artificial limb and wheelchair notwithstanding, Tony was always upbeat. Towards the end, he became bedridden. Even then, however, if someone went to Tony's room intent on cheering Tony up, it was that person who came out more cheerful.

As his conditioned worsened, Tony had to be admitted to Mercy Hospital in Gary. After having received the Sacrament of the Sick and communion, he fell into a coma.

Tony, who had always loved Christmas, and decorated his room with crib and lights as bright as a miniature Times Square, fell peacefully asleep in the Lord as children were singing "Silent Night" in the hospital corridor.

Tony is buried in Huntington.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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 - ℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



JOGUES CONSTANCE, who died in Detroit, in 2009, at age 82, after 64 years of religious life, and 56 years in the priesthood.

Jogues was born and raised in Marquette, Michigan. From his earliest years, he desired to become a priest. His vocation was especially encouraged by an aunt and by Fr. Emil Beyer, an associate pastor at the cathedral. Beyer facilitated Jogues' admission to St. Lawrence College in Mt. Calvary. Since the Constance family could not afford the tuition, the bishop — assuming that Jogues would become a diocesan priest — had the diocese cover the costs and provided Jogues with a job during the summers.

Jogues had not even so much as heard of the Capuchins before he entered St. Lawrence. Everyone there also assumed that Jogues was a candidate for the diocese. But, attracted by the poverty, simplicity and manly austerity of the friars, Jogues asked to join the Order. Of course, he had to break the news to the bishop who, although disappointed, gave Jogues his blessing.

Jogues entered the novitiate at Huntington and passed through the various stages of formation. He excelled as a student. After ordination, he was assigned to teach at Marathon. Three years later, he was sent to Rome for higher studies and earned a licentiate in Canon Law from the Urban College of the Propaganda Fide [pro-puh-GAN-da FEE-day].

Upon his return, Jogues was assigned to the staff of our seminary in Marathon where he taught, was Dean of Studies and ministered to the Secular Franciscans. He served there for twelve years, until we closed our seminary.

The next twenty-two years were spent in Detroit ministering to the Secular Franciscans and working in the archdiocesan Tribunal. Jogues also served one term on the provincial council and one year as local minister.

Jogues then moved to Wisconsin, first as director and local minister of Monte Alverno in Appleton, and then as chaplain to St. Francis Home in Fond du Lac. After five years, Jogues retired to St. Crispin's Friary in Washington, Michigan. Throughout the years, even into his retirement, he continued to serve the Secular Franciscans.

Jogues had a special place in his heart for the downtrodden and the troubled. He patiently listened to them and offered them words of comfort.

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- ✠. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
 - ✠. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them).
 - ✠. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ✠. Amen.
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December 19 (*continued...*)

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

During his retirement, Jogues underwent back surgery and hip surgery. After experiencing loss of balance, memory loss and confusion, tests discovered a Stage Four cancerous brain tumor. Surgery proved fruitless, and Jogues entered hospice care at St. Bonaventure's in Detroit where the brothers cared for him, prayed with him, and kept vigil until he passed to his eternal reward.

Jogues is buried in Detroit.

HARRY JOHN, an Affiliate of the Province, who died on this day in 1992.

Harry John, heir to the Miller Brewing Company and founder of the De Rance Foundation – which at one time was the world's largest Catholic charity, was a benefactor of the Capuchins. He was affiliated to the Province in 1957.

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∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



VINCENT HEINEKAMP [HIGH-NE-KAHMP], who died in Appleton in 1906, at age 69, after 34 years of religious life and 29 years in the priesthood.

Vincent was born in Germany. He excelled in studies, was trained in the violin and piano, learned French and English, and followed in the footsteps of his father, a teacher.

When he came to America he settled in Baltimore where he taught at St. James and Holy Cross Parishes. How he came into contact with Capuchins is unknown, but once he did, he visited his family in Germany one last time and joined the Order at Mt. Calvary.

His first six years after ordination were spent at St. Fidelis in New York City. The remainder of his years were spent at St. Joseph Parish in Appleton where he demonstrated a special care for the sick. The friars held him in high esteem as a confessor.

Even after retiring, Vincent continued to hone his skills and became a poet of some ability. It is claimed that he even wrote a life of St. Francis in verse.

He is buried in Appleton.

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 - ℟. Amen.
-

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



CYRIL KUFNER [CUFF-NER], who died in New York in 1929, at age 61, after 43 years of religious life and 38 years in the priesthood.

Born in Bavaria, his family emigrated to Milwaukee when Cyril was about three years old. He enrolled in the first class at Mt. Calvary when the Seraphic School opened in 1885. He was a very talented student.

Because he was such a talented student, after ordination Cyril was assigned to teach in our House of Philosophy, and later in the House of Theology. His career as an educator of our students lasted 21 years.

His next years were spent in parish ministry at St. Benedict's, St. Francis', and St. Elizabeth's in Milwaukee.

Cyril was a very talented man who disliked being in the limelight. He preferred books and study to honors and distinctions. He was held in high esteem for his work in the Marriage Tribunal, and when he was placed in charge of the library at St. Francis, he worked diligently to make it the most complete and up-to-date library in the Province. He also served as Guardian of St. Joseph, Appleton and St. Fidelis in New York City.

He retired when his health began to fail. A bout of pneumonia developed into tuberculosis. He was admitted to St. Joseph Hospital in New York where he died. Cyril is buried in Yonkers.



JAMES BUSER [BOOZE-ER], who died at Mt. Calvary in 1979, at age 35, after 17 years of religious life and nine years in the priesthood.

Jim was born in California but grew up near Port Washington, Wisconsin. He graduated from St. Lawrence Seminary in Mt. Calvary before entering the Capuchin novitiate at Huntington.

Jim's only assignment after ordination was to teach German at St. Lawrence where, because of his beard and towering height (6' 6"), he was affectionately known as "the mad monk" and "the gentle giant".

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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 - ℟. Amen.

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

Jim was well-respected, playful and full of enthusiasm. Even when the local fraternity numbered more than 50, Jim took a personal interest in each individual. He loved ritual and traditions. Every year, on the Feast of the Epiphany, he would bundle up and trudge down the hill to bless the water of St. Conrad's Well.

Jim died suddenly at a Christmas party with the Seminary employees. Subsequent claims of sexual abuse against minors cast a pall over his memory. Jim is buried at Mt. Calvary.



ARNOLD BENDOWSKE [BEN-DOW-SKI], who died at Fond du Lac in 1993, at age 80, after 60 years of religious life and 53 years in the priesthood.

Arnold was a son of St. Francis Parish, and later, St. Elizabeth Parish in Milwaukee. He attended St. Lawrence College in Mt. Calvary and demonstrated natural skills in forensics and debate.

During his seminary days the Province had no mission, and Arnold felt torn between his desire to become a Capuchin and his yearning to be a missionary. Nonetheless he entered the novitiate, knowing that if it were God's will to become a missionary, somehow it would happen.

During his seminary days at Marathon, the Province accepted two missions: Bluefields in Nicaragua and Guam. Arnold immediately volunteered for the missions, and expressed a preference for Nicaragua. Shortly after ordination, he received his Letter of Obedience for Guam.

Three months after his arrival on Guam war broke out with the Japanese. The Imperial Troops captured the island, and all 11 American Capuchin missionaries were taken prisoner and interned at Kobe, Japan for the next three years and nine months. It was in the prisoner of war camp that Arnold learned Chamorro [cha-MORE-o], the language of Guam. The friars were on the brink of starvation when they were liberated by American Forces. After a period of recovery in the States, Arnold chose to return to Guam.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
✠. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them).
∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
✠. Amen.
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December 21 *(continued...)*

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

The island was heavily damaged in the war. Arnold proved very capable in the process of reconstruction.

Although it was intended to be a temporary assignment, Arnold spent most of his 30 years in the missions on the more remote island of Saipan. There he established a Catholic school system and was an effective promoter of religious and priestly vocations. After the Second Vatican Council, he was commissioned to translate the liturgical texts into the Chamorro language.

Arnold loved a good argument, and was a great talker, with endless interesting tales to relate. Unfortunately, a tumor on the larynx all but silenced his voice. Later, a stroke ended his active missionary career, but his love for the people of Saipan continued through his long years of physical disability.

Arnold returned to the Province, and resided at St. Francis Home in Fond du Lac. When he experienced abdominal discomfort he was taken to St. Agnes Hospital where he passed to his eternal reward. He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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- ✠. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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✠. Amen.
-

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



ROBERT SKERIS, who died at Milwaukee in 1989, at age 47, after 28 years of religious life, and 21 years in the priesthood.

Bob was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin; his family later moved to the east side of Port Washington. In his youth, Bob developed a lifelong love of fishing, music, basketball and dance. He attended St. Lawrence in Mt. Calvary where he grew into an energetic, witty and warm person. He was a natural community builder.

After ordination, Bob ministered in Milwaukee's inner city, serving first at the House of Peace and later at St. Francis Parish. He was outgoing, gregarious, and often delighted in taking center stage at recreation. He developed a gifted sensitivity to women and street people, and boldly spoke out on behalf of the underdog.

Bob's greatest weakness — an addiction to food — also became the source of his greatest strength. It enabled him to have a tremendous amount of compassion and empathy for others who were struggling. Bob understood addiction and was very instrumental in helping other people, but his own addiction was a constant struggle.

Transferred to Detroit, Bob soon organized Jefferson House which developed into a rehabilitation center for chemically addicted men. With the help of Sue Lane, it became a great success.

After seven years Bob resigned from Jefferson House in order to pursue further studies. He earned two Masters Degrees in Social Work. He was also highly regarded for his creative and concrete preaching, and for his insightful, compassionate counseling.

After years of personal struggle, Bob entered a weight-loss and life management program and returned a changed person. Following the 12-Step Program, his life was on the mend and his future looked brighter than ever.

Unexpectedly, however, while visiting his father, Bob suffered a ruptured aortic aneurysm. He was admitted to St. Mary's Hospital in Milwaukee where he breathed his last while calling upon the name of Jesus.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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- ✠. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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 - ✠. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ✠. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



CAMILLUS GNAD [GUN-ADD], who died at Mt. Calvary in 1901, at age 43, after 27 years of religious life and 20 years in the priesthood.

Camillus was born in Germany. His family emigrated to America and settled in Brooklyn. When he expressed an interest in the priesthood, his pastor steered him toward Calvary where he joined the Order.

After ordination, Camillus was assigned to teach at Calvary. Four years later, he was transferred to Detroit where he served as Novice Master for six years, but his strong personality made him ill-suited for that role. At the same time, he served as the Province's first Provincial Secretary.

Camillus returned to Mt. Calvary and, with the exception of five months in Harlem, remained there until his death. He served as Vicar of the fraternity and spiritual director for the Sisters of St. Agnes in Fond du Lac.

Camillus suffered much during the last 18 months of his life. His death was due to a combination of diseases, the main one affecting his kidneys.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
℟. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them).
∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

XAVIER KRALCZYNSKI [KRAL-CHIN-SKI], who died in Milwaukee in 1876, at age 70, after 52 years of religious life and 47 years in the priesthood.

Xavier was born in Russian-occupied Poland. He entered the Capuchin Order at Warsaw and was ordained to the priesthood. He served the Polish Province as a professor of Philosophy and Theology, and later as director of the Mission Band. He would often preach in the open air to up to 20,000 people.

After a failed Polish insurrection attempt, the Russians occupied Warsaw, suppressed all religious houses, abolished religious Orders, and imprisoned many clergy and religious, including Xavier.

After his release from prison, Xavier waited for the restoration of his monastery, but after four years, decided to place himself at the disposition of the General Minister for ministry elsewhere.

The 64-year-old Capuchin arrived in Milwaukee and lived at St. Francis Monastery. Shortly after his arrival, the choir, church and monastery were ready to be blessed. Xavier was the celebrant of the High Mass marking the occasion.

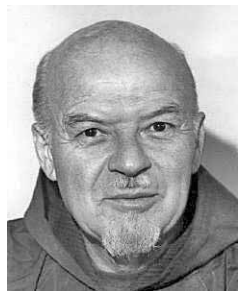
Xavier desired to join our Province, but since he could not speak German or English, he asked Archbishop Henni [HEN-nee] for a ministry to the Polish immigrants. He first went to Manitowoc, then to St. Hedwig's in Milwaukee, and finally was appointed pastor of the main Polish parish in Milwaukee, St. Stanislaus.

Xavier kept up his ties with our friars and celebrated his golden religious jubilee at St. Francis Church. Though nearly 70 years old, Xavier was still vigorous in mind and body.

After preaching a sermon on death, he headed back to the rectory. Between the church and the rectory he suffered a fatal stroke. A Capuchin of outstanding virtue, Xavier is buried with our brothers in Milwaukee.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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 - ∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ℟. Amen.
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BARTHOLOMEW KESTELL [KESS-EL], who died at Mt. Calvary in 1991, at age 72, after 50 years of religious life and 42 years in the priesthood.

Bart was probably most widely known and recognized for his puppet, Oscar, and the innumerable wood inlays that grace the walls of many of our friaries. However, he was also a missionary, architect, archaeologist, publicist and preacher.

Small of frame but full of life, Bart had a deep love and enthusiasm for the Order. Born in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, the family soon moved to New Holstein where Bart graduated from the public high school, and then entered St. Lawrence College in Mt. Calvary.

His father taught him carpentry skills and Bart became especially adept at the art of making wood inlays. During his post-novitiate years, Bart became interested in magic and puppeteering which would both serve his ministry and remain lifelong interests.

After ordination, he was sent to study architecture and he put those skills to good use during the postwar reconstruction on Guam, as well as in the construction of Queen of Angels in Saginaw, St. Elizabeth's friary in Milwaukee; St. Labre's in Montana; in converting the former orphanage into a novitiate at Baraga, St. Mary's Seminary in Crown Point; St. Fidelis Hall at Calvary, and the new wings at Marathon and Monte Alverno, Appleton.

Bart volunteered to spend two years as a missionary in the Vicariate of Saudi Arabia. He remained there for 23 years. Bart has the distinction of being the first resident priest in Oman where he began the construction of the first church in that nation. Enthusiasm was the hallmark of everything he did. His engaging personality won him and the Order countless friends.

Cancer forced his return to the States. Full of hope, he battled the disease bravely, without losing any of his enthusiasm for life. With a handful of brothers gathered around his bedside, Bart was called home on Christmas Eve.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
 - ℟. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them).
 - ∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ℟. Amen.
-

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



BOOKER ASHE, who died at Milwaukee in the year 2000, at age 68, after 48 years of religious life.

Booker was born in South Carolina and raised in Chicago. Although he was not the first African American to join our Province, he was the first to remain with us until death.

After profession, Booker served as secretary to Solanus Casey, then as bookkeeper, porter, sacristan and cook at St. Elizabeth's in Milwaukee, and then in recruitment work for St. Lawrence Seminary.

Booker had a passion for justice. When he joined the pastoral team of St. Francis Parish in Milwaukee, he declared his own "War on Poverty" by founding the House of Peace, a storefront community services center which dispensed food, clothing and hope to those in need.

Besides the countless number of lives he personally touched, Booker somehow found time for larger projects as well. He actively supported cultural programs for area students. He was a member of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus, the National Office for Black Catholics, and served on the board of Catholic Charities in Milwaukee. Booker was the force behind the re-opening of Messmer High School. He lived to see it become a school of excellence.

Booker was the recipient of dozens of awards and honorary doctorates for furthering human rights and for community service. He made history by becoming the first Capuchin lay brother to be elected to a Provincial Council in 367 years. Booker served on the Council for two terms, and was chosen as delegate to the Second Plenary Council in Taizé which focused on prayer.

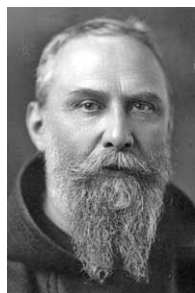
In everything he did, Booker relied heavily on his faith. He was a beacon of light with seemingly unlimited compassion for God's poor. He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

ROBERT AND MARY CARSON, who were affiliated to the Province on this day in 1925.

The Carsons were very dedicated employees of Mary Immaculate Seraphicate in Glencliffe, New York. For their dedication and for establishing a scholarship they were affiliated to the Province. The dates of their deaths are unknown.

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✠. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



BENEDICT MUELLER [MYOU-LER], who died at Garrison in 1949, at age 77, after 59 years of religious life and 53 years in the priesthood.

Benedict was baptized at the Capuchin Church of Our Lady of Sorrows in New York. His father owned and operated a cabinet-making and woodcarving shop on Pitt Street.

After graduating from the parish grade school, Benedict was enrolled in Jesuit-run St. Francis Xavier Academy. The Jesuits tried recruiting him for their Society, but Benedict said he did not want to spend the rest of his life teaching. Ironically, after joining the Capuchins and being ordained, Benedict was sent to Mt. Calvary as prefect and teacher.

As a teacher he was thoroughly prepared and taught with a systematic, deliberate style. Because of his interest in penmanship, he was assigned to teach that subject, among others, and over time became skilled at calligraphy.

While continuing to teach at Calvary, he was named pastor of St. Cloud where he built the brick church.

Benedict served as Rector of St. Lawrence at three different terms. The first lasted 12 years, the second six, and the third three. Between his first and second terms, and his second and third terms as Rector, Benedict served as Provincial Minister. He also served four terms on the Provincial Council.

Even though he was a strict disciplinarian, Benedict did much to create “the Calvary spirit”, and was profoundly concerned about the well-being of every student and staff member. During his time as Rector, he introduced the practice of celebrating the annual Field Day on campus rather than off-site, the academic curriculum was overhauled, a new sanctuary and sacristy were provided for the chapel, St. Thomas Hall was enlarged, and the astronomy tower built.

During his time as provincial minister, Holy Cross Parish in Wauwatosa was relinquished to the Pallottines, the building of St. Anthony’s in Marathon was completed, and the novitiate built and opened at Huntington.

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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

Benedict also was Director of the Seraphicate at Glencllyffe and as Guardian and Pastor of his home parish, Our Lady of Sorrows.

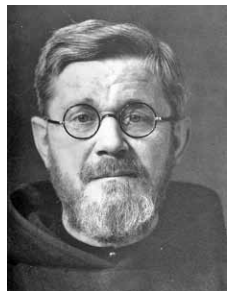
In retirement, he continued to serve as spiritual director at Glencllyffe, and confessor to both the Graymoor Sisters and the Missionary Franciscan Sisters in Peekskill.

When he grew more feeble, Benedict entered the infirmary. His condition worsened on December 24th. Throughout Christmas Day, the brothers took turns watching and praying at his bedside, in one last spiritual and corporal work of mercy.

Benedict died at 11:45 on Christmas night. This giant in the history of the Province is buried at Yonkers.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God rest in peace.
℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



THOMAS GILG, who died at Mt. Calvary in 1936, at age 55, after 36 years of religious life and 29 years in the priesthood.

Thomas was born in Bavaria and studied at the famous Benedictine Abbey of Metten. It was there that he was recruited for the Province by the diocesan priest, Fr. Stangl [STANG-ul]. He came to America and entered the scholasticate first and then the novitiate.

After ordination, Thomas spent a short time at St. Francis Parish in Milwaukee, before moving to Detroit where he had charge of the mission parish in Royal Oak. After one year he was transferred to St. Joseph's Parish in Appleton.

These three short assignments were followed by 17 years of teaching at Calvary. At the same time, Thomas served as pastor of the small parish of St. Joseph for three years, followed by three years as assistant pastor of Mt. Calvary and director of the Third Order.

His final assignment, which lasted nine years, was as assistant pastor of St. Francis in Milwaukee where he took special care of the German-speaking sick and penitents, and was repeatedly called upon to give retreats in German.

The outstanding trait of Thomas' character was his cheerfulness. He possessed great sympathy and was always ready to do others a good turn.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



GEORGE SPIES [SHPEEZ], who died at Mt. Calvary in 1915, at age 68, after 43 years of religious life.

Born in Germany, George was the half brother of Capuchin Philip Spies. He came to America and entered the Order one year later, at age 25.

George served in various friaries as porter, cook, gardener and tailor. Because of his cheerful optimism, he was enjoyable to live with. He possessed a deep piety and a true love of God, and was always grateful for the gift of his vocation.

George is buried at Mt. Calvary.



CYPRIAN ABLER [AH-BLER], who died at Crown Point, Indiana in 1969, at age 84, after 62 years of religious life, and 55 years in the priesthood.

Born in a log cabin between St. Joe and Marytown, Wisconsin, Cyprian was baptized at St. Joe, and attended the parochial school at Mt. Calvary. After finishing school, he had no idea what he wanted to do with his life. Conversations with Justin Hausmann set him on the path to joining the Order. He attended St. Lawrence College before entering the novitiate.

Cyprian was the first priest to be ordained at the Mt. Calvary Parish. Following ordination, he spent eleven years in Detroit helping in parishes, hearing confessions, directing the local Third Order, and serving as Director of the Third Order Commissariate.

For the next 20 years he was pastor, first at Yonkers and then at St. Joseph's in Appleton. As a preacher, his directness, sincerity, relevance and powerful voice left an impression. He also spent four years as assistant director of the western Mission Band.

Cyprian served six terms on the Provincial Council and two terms as Provincial Minister. He was the last provincial minister prior to the division of the Province, and the first afterward.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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 - ℟. Amen.
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December 27 *(continued...)*

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

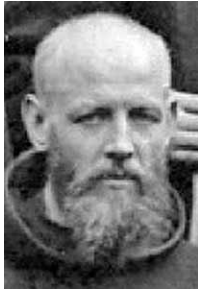
As a leader, he underscored the centrality of community life: common altar, common table, common recreation. Under his leadership, St. Francis Brothers' School was approved and plans for Queen of Angels Retreat Center and St. Anthony Parish in Saginaw were initiated. Cyprian was the first pastor of St. Anthony's, and the first local minister at Queen of Angels. He also supervised the building of the friary at Garrison.

At age 63, Cyprian was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease and eventually was confined to a wheelchair. The need for assisted living brought him first to St. Benedict's and then to Crown Point where this giant of the Province passed to his eternal reward.

He is buried at Huntington.

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through the mercy of God rest in peace.
℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



CHRYSOSTOM STAPPERS [CHRIS-US-TUM SHTOP-ERS], who died in Milwaukee in 1919, at age 60, after 23 years of religious life and five years in the priesthood.

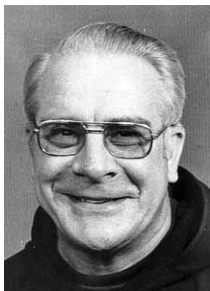
Chrysostom was born in Prussia. After emigrating to America, he attended St. Lawrence College. Although he diligently applied himself to his studies and his conduct was exemplary, his grades were less than stellar.

After novitiate, he struggled through the course of philosophy and theology and was ordained to the diaconate. He finished his course work, but ordination to the priesthood was put off because of his grades.

Chrysostom continued to serve at Holy Cross in Milwaukee, and then as sacristan at St. Francis. Thirteen years later, he was ordained to the priesthood, but he served the rest of his days as janitor at Wauwatosa.

Chrysostom was prayerful and edifying. After falling ill, he was taken to the hospital and tests revealed that an ulcer had perforated the stomach and gangrene had set in. There was no hope for his recovery. After receiving the Sacraments, he died peacefully on the feast of the Holy Innocents.

He is buried in Milwaukee.



JOEL TULLER, who died at Appleton in 1997, at age 72, after 53 years of religious life and 46 years in the priesthood.

The Tullers lived a few blocks from St. Francis Church in Milwaukee. Three of the sons attended St. Lawrence Seminary and became Capuchin priests. Joel was the second son.

Involved in a number of ministries stretching from North Dakota to Saudi Arabia, Joel's two most noteworthy assignments were his 17 years of teaching at Mt. Calvary, and the 14 years he was pastor at the nearby parish in St. Joe.

Joel enjoyed telling stories, dabbled in oil painting, and was a very gifted photographer. Like all the Tullers, he was somewhat reserved. When he did speak, however, his style tended to be up-front and frank, which was not always appreciated.

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- ∇. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
 - ℟. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them).
 - ∇. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
 - ℟. Amen.
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December 28 *(continued...)*

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

When St. Fidelis Friary in Appleton was opened as a retirement facility, Joel was asked to be on the staff. He responded with his characteristic availability. After five years, he was diagnosed with lung cancer and passed away at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Appleton.

Joel is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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- ✠. Eternal rest grant to him/her (them), O Lord.
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✠. May his/her (their) soul(s), and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God rest in peace.
✠. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

SERAPHIN RITZENHOFF [RITZ-EN-HOFF], who died at Mt. Calvary in 1890, at age 47, after 19 years of religious life.

Seraphin grew up in Germany and was a mason by trade. After joining the Order, he served at St. Fidelis in New York; St. Joseph's, Appleton; Fort Lee, New Jersey; and finally, as baker at Mt. Calvary.

Despite a foreboding exterior, Seraphin had a warm and sympathetic heart. He was hardworking, very diligent, and added a great deal of enjoyment to community gatherings.

He is buried at Mt. Calvary.



MATTHEW HOLZMILLER, who died at Fond du Lac in 1894, at age 43, after 22 years of religious life, and 18 years in the priesthood.

After emigrating from Germany, Matthew attended St. John's College, apparently intent on joining the Benedictines at Collegeville, Minnesota. Instead, he entered the novitiate at Mt. Calvary.

Since he was an excellent student, Matthew was called upon to teach in the clericate even before he was ordained. The year following his ordination, he was appointed novice master for a 3-year term. He later taught philosophy at Mt. Calvary and served several terms as local vicar.

As a professor, Matthew was a strict disciplinarian and a thorough teacher. He loved music and composed several pieces for the violin. While stationed at Mt. Calvary he also served the pastoral needs of St. Mary's Parish in Monroe. Later, he served as chaplain to the Notre Dame Sisters in Mt. Calvary and to the Agnesians in Fond du Lac.

Matthew died suddenly at Fond du Lac. When he failed to appear for Mass, the Sisters went to his room where he was found dead. On his desk was a book of chant opened to the paragraph on the Requiem. His death, though sudden, did not find him unprepared.

Matthew is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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 - ℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



CAMILLUS BECKER, who died at Milwaukee in 1936, at age 52, after 33 years of religious life and 26 years in the priesthood.

Camillus was born in New York City. His parents were pioneer members of our first New York parish, Our Lady of Sorrows.

Camillus attended St. Lawrence College in Mt. Calvary before entering the novitiate. Immediately after ordination, he was appointed assistant professor at St. Francis in Milwaukee where he also co-founded the St. Boniface Mission League, a major fund-raiser for the Mission at St. Benedict's.

Soon afterward, he launched out into what would become his life's work: giving retreats and parish missions.

When Camillus gave his first retreat to the Agnesians, several of the older Sisters remarked that they had not heard such a good retreat since the days of Francis Haas. Camillus put his entire self into every retreat, even those for children. Over his lifetime, Camillus gave some 400 retreats, excluding missions.

After being transferred temporarily to St. Lawrence College to substitute for a sick friar, he was appointed pastor of St. Cloud Parish. His preaching and affability made him very popular with the people. They were saddened to lose him two years later when he was appointed Rector of St. Lawrence College.

Although well-liked, his years as Rector were trying times. The flu epidemic of 1918 landed 126 students and 20 scholastics in bed. After the epidemic, a fire swept through the roof of the Laurentianum [**law-ren-see-AH-num**] which also sustained considerable interior water damage. Then Camillus himself became so ill that he had to resign and be hospitalized.

Once back on his feet, he served the parish at St. Peter, and then was assigned to the Mission Band with residence at St. Joseph's in Appleton. Later, he continued his retreat ministry from St. Francis in Milwaukee where he did a tremendous amount of good as Director of the Archdiocesan Holy Name Union.

Camillus was in the midst of a Sisters' retreat when he became seriously ill. Admitted to St. Joseph's Hospital, his condition worsened until he lost consciousness. Camillus, illustrious preacher of the Word, received the Sacraments, and died in the Lord. He is buried in Milwaukee.

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℟. Amen.
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In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.



CRISPIN BLESCH, who died at Mt. Calvary in 1901, at age 66, after 40 years of religious life.

Crispin was born in Germany and came to America when he was 18. He worked as a tinsmith in Rochester, New York before joining the Order at age 26.

Over the course of the years, he served mainly as cook, mostly at Mt. Calvary and St. Francis in Milwaukee.

Crispin was especially conscientious when it came to poverty, probably to an extreme, which affected not only himself but the other friars, as well.

Despite his own shortcomings, there was none more ready than Crispin to excuse the faults and shortcomings of others, and no one ever saw him angry or heard him be judgmental. His spirit of prayer was as unflagging as it was devout.

In the early 1890s, at St. Bonaventure's in Detroit, one of the lay brother novices was in the tailorshop with Br. Sebastian Landmesser, the senior brother of the community. They had been talking about the saints of the Order when the novice asked: "Have we any saintly brothers in our Province?" Sebastian replied, "If we have any saints, then surely Br. Crispin is one."

Crispin is buried at Mt. Calvary.



SIMEON KEOGH [SIM-EE-UN KEY-OH], who died at Kaukauna in 2007, at age 86, after 63 years of religious life and 58 years in the priesthood.

Simeon was born in Toledo. At age 16, he suffered his first attack of acute Rheumatic Fever which affected his heart.

After graduating from St. Joseph College in Rensselaer, he joined the Order. Owing to his heart condition and the expectation that he probably would not live long, he was ordained and assigned to Huntington where he was confessor to the Sisters and secretary to Solanus Casey. Two years later, he was appointed local minister of our House of Studies in Marathon.

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 - ℟. Amen.
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December 31 *(continued...)*

In charity, let us remember our brothers and affiliates whose anniversary of death occurs tomorrow.

Simeon embodied a new style of leadership which influenced the entire Province. Although he served in various capacities — at a retreat center, in parishes, as hospital chaplain and in formation work — his greatest gift and legacy was his more casual, brotherly leadership style.

Although never elected to provincial leadership, Simeon served as local minister in many of our friaries at the request of the friars. He ushered in a new era and helped break down the traditional customs, roles and distinctions between clerics and lay brothers.

Simeon brought joy to the community and animated others. He never shied away from things he enjoyed: dressing as a clown, rug hooking and baking.

The greatest testament to Simeon's life was the number of friars who, upon hearing of his passing, remarked: "He was the best superior I ever had."

Simeon is buried at Mt. Calvary.

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