REVEREND FATHER
PETER BRENDAN MURPHY
Date/Place of Birth: January 13, 1931,
Sioux City, Iowa
Parents: John Murphy and Helen Fitzpatrick
Hometown/School: Sioux City, Iowa –
Cathedral School/Trinity High School
Minor Seminary/College:
Loras College – Dubuque, Iowa
Major Seminary:
St. Paul Seminary – St. Paul, Minnesota
Date/Place of Ordination: June 4, 1955,
Cathedral of the Epiphany, Sioux City, Iowa
Date/Place of Death:
November 8, 1980, Jemez Springs, New Mexico
Place of Interment:
Catholic Cemetery, Jemez Springs, New Mexico
Biographical Note: Father Murphy’s ministry
was hindered as a result of a long and chronic
illness. A tribute paid him in The Globe shortly
after his death at the still young age of 49 aptly
noted: “Every priest tries his best to live up to ...
being an ‘alter Christus,’ ‘another Christ.’ Father
Murphy probably most resembles Jesus the
eternal high priest in his frustrations. Jesus was
so misunderstood by many of the people he
loved so dearly…. So, too, Father Murphy felt
the frustration of not being understood.”

Assignments:
1. Temporary Assistant – St. Mary Parish –
Danbury – 1955
2. Assistant Pastor – Assumption Parish –
Emmetsburg – 1955-1956
• Faculty – Emmetsburg Catholic High
School – Emmetsburg – 1955-1956
3. Assistant Pastor – Sacred Heart Parish –
Fort Dodge – 1956-1960
5. Temporary Assistant – Blessed Sacrament Parish – Sioux City – 1960
   (Leave of absence due to ill health from 1960)
   (Leave of absence due to ill health from 1961)
   (Leave of absence due to ill health from 1964)
   (Leave of absence due to ill health from 1973)