Former Emmanuel assistant dies

The Rev. John P. Finke, who served for 10 years as assistant pastor of Emmanuel Catholic Church, died last week in Louisiana where he had worked since retiring.

Finke, 77, died Friday after a period of ill health, according to a release from the Marianist order.

He was named assistant pastor of Emmanuel Catholic Church, 149 Franklin St., in 1967 and held the position until 1977 when he reached the Cincinnati Archdiocese's retirement age of 70. He then worked as an assistant pastor in Amelia, La.

Finke, a retired lieutenant colonel in the Air Force, also served more than 20 years as a military chaplain, including service during World War II.

Finke, a one-time assistant professor of religious studies at the University of Dayton, entered the Society of Mary in 1925. He was ordained a priest 12 years later in Switzerland.

A Baltimore, Md., native, he is survived by many family members in that area.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Emmanuel Church. Visitation will be 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the church. Westbrook Funeral Home is handling funeral arrangements.