Rev. Charles Potocki, New Lenox priest

By Kenan Heise

Rev. Charles E. Potocki, 50, a Catholic priest and member of the Franciscan Order, was associate pastor of St. Jude Catholic Church in New Lenox.

A New Lenox resident, he died Thursday in The Villa Franciscan Nursing Home in Joliet.

"He was a tall, lanky man and very warm," said Rev. Charles Faso, a fellow Franciscan and pastor of St. Peter's Catholic Church in the Loop. "He was very sensitive and creative, not only personally but also liturgically."

A native of Chicago, Father Potocki entered the Franciscan Order's Sacred Heart Province in Teutopolis, Ill., in 1962. He was ordained in Chicago on June 13, 1970.

Father Potocki served as an as-

sociate pastor in Columbus, Neb., and at Sacred Heart Church in St. Paul. He then became pastor of St. Pascal's Church in West Monroe, La.

He was especially noted for working well with youth.

Another Franciscan, Rev. Mike Clarahan, described him as "a kind, gentle, tender and thoughtful man who reminds you of the quotation, 'He prayeth best who loveth best all things both great and small; for the dear God who loveth us, He made and loveth all.'

Survivors include two sisters. Members of his family will receive friends from 2 to 9 p.m. Sunday in St. Jude's, 241 W. 2nd Ave., New Lenox. Mass for Father Potocki will be said at 10:30 a.m. Monday in the church.