

**Obituaries**

# Rev. John Schutzman comforted sick, elderly

He always wanted to be a priest and never wavered

**BY NANCY THORSEN**

The Cincinnati Enquirer

FORT THOMAS — The Rev. John Stanley Schutzman, who served Roman Catholic parishioners and patients in hospitals and nursing homes in Northern Kentucky over a span of 40 years, died Wednesday at his residence in Carmel Manor here. He was 71.

The Pittsburgh native entered the seminary after his freshman year in high school.

Upon completion of his theological training at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., he was ordained May 31, 1952, at St. Mary Cathedral in Covington (now Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption).

He was pastor at the Cathedral, Sacred Heart Church in Bellevue and St. Therese Church in Southgate before moving to Buffalo, N.Y., to begin post-graduate work at Canisius College.

"He just loved to study," said his brother, Robert Schutzman of Fort Thomas. A voracious reader, Father Schutzman's appetite for theological works and good literature waned in the last few years only because of health problems.

Following his studies in Buffalo, Father Schutzman served as pastor and hospital chaplain in Lexington, Ky., before return-

ing permanently to Northern Kentucky in 1982. He "found his forte" as chaplain to sick and elderly people, his brother said.

Because of his own health problems, Father Schutzman "could identify with the elderly and the sick and had tremendous compassion for them. He could sit for hours and hours with the same person," his brother said.

Father Schutzman was chaplain at Holy Family Home in Melbourne, Lakeside Place Nursing Home in Cold Spring and at Carmel Manor, among others. Even after his retirement from full-time pastoral service in 1990, he continued visits to patients in hospitals and nursing homes until his declining health forced his confinement, his brother said.

"My brother often said, 'I always wanted to be a priest,'" he said. "He never wavered, never had doubts about what he wanted to do."

Survivors include eight other brothers and sisters: Joseph of Fort Thomas; Florence Armstrong of Burlington, N.C.; Patricia Reiland of Columbia, S.C.; and Irene Perez, Helen Kaib, James, Thomas and Walter, all of Pittsburgh.

The service has been held.

Burial was in St. Pius Cemetery at The Catholic Center in Erlanger.

Memorials can be made to The Madonna House of Northern Kentucky, 25 Orphanage Road, Box 175965, Fort Thomas 41075 or Carmel Manor, 100 Carmel Manor Road, Fort Thomas 41075.