

The Rev. Father Philip (James) Bronk S.T.

Nov. 12, 1923 — Dec. 29, 2011



Bronk

Reverend Father Philip (James) Bronk S.T., 88, was born Nov. 12, 1923, at home in Stockton Valley, the

youngest of seven children. His older brothers and sisters were Leo, Rose, George, Florence, Joseph and Edward. His parents were Leon and Josephine (Verdick) Bronk. He was baptized James at St. Casmir's Church, Winona. He served 60 years as a Roman Catholic priest.

Father Philip attended rural elementary school, Winona Cotter, LaSalle Institute in Missouri and Saint Mary's College in Winona. After seminary, he was ordained June 5, 1951, at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. His first Mass was June 10, 1951, at his home parish of St. Paul's in Minnesota City.

Father Bronk served as a priest of the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity. The Missionary Servants were founded for the preservation of the faith, working in the southern and eastern United

States. He served as a priest in mission churches and parishes, and also was in charge of the farm at the Father Judge Mission Seminary.

During the past 35 years, he organized and led pilgrimages to holy sites throughout the world. He particularly felt called by the Blessed Virgin Mary to bring pilgrims into a closer relationship with her son Jesus.

Twenty years ago, he moved to senior ministry, serving as chaplain to the Carmelite sisters and residents of Little Flower Haven in La Mesa, Calif. He resided there until his death.

Father Philip passed away Dec. 29, 2011, after continued failing health. He never lost his connection and appreciation for his rural roots, and will be sadly missed by nieces and nephews, his brother priests, and the many lives he touched through his ministry.

A Mass to celebrate his life will be held Saturday, Jan. 14, at 11 a.m. at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Minnesota City, Minn. Rosary will begin at 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in Missionary Servants Cemetery, Holy Trinity, Ala.