

Rev. William J. Gieranowski

Aug. 8, 1923 – April 24, 2000

Rev. William J. Gieranowski, 76, Catholic priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, a native of South Bend, Ind., who had been living in Pompano Beach, Fla., since his retirement in 1981, passed to eternal life after many years of illness on Easter Monday, April 24, in the Saint Anne Retirement Home, Fort Wayne, Ind.

He was born on Aug. 8, 1923, in South Bend, to the late Sylvester Gieranowski and Hedwig Iwaszewski, who both came from Poland. He was also preceded in death by his sister, Virginia (Sister Mary Henrietta, C.S.S.F.), and by his brother, Edward.

He graduated from South Bend Catholic High School in 1942 and from Saint Mary's College, Orchard Lake, Mich., in 1945. He completed his theological studies at Saint Mary's Seminary and the University of Baltimore, Maryland, and was ordained to the Catholic priesthood on June 11, 1949, by Bishop John F. Knoll for service to the Diocese of Fort Wayne.

His parish assignments as an assistant pastor included Saint Stanislaus, East Chicago (July 7, 1949); Saint Adalbert, South Bend (April 20, 1951); Saint Thomas More, Munster, Ind. (July 3, 1951); Saint Vincent, Elkhart, Ind. (May 20, 1955); Saint Henry, Fort Wayne (Jan. 15, 1960); and Saint Jude, South Bend (June 15, 1960). He served as pastor of Saint Hyacinth, Fort Wayne (Sept. 1, 1964); Saint Monica, Mishawaka (July 1, 1970); and