Rev. Joseph S. Heretick

Former Great Falls priest the Rev. Joseph Simon Heretick, 78, died Saturday in Billings of natural causes.

Reception of the body is noon Tuesday at St. Patrick's Co-Cathedral in Billings, with visitation to follow. Burial Mass is 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at St. Patrick's, with burial at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Holy Cross Cemetery. Dahl Funeral Chapel of Billings is in charge of arrangements.

Heretick was born in North Braddock, Penn., on Oct. 28, 1920. He attended school there for two years and completed his elementary education in Hopewill, Va. Heretick graduated from high school at St. Joseph's in Petersberg, Va. and entered St. Charles College in Cantonsville, Md. After two years he transferred to Mount St. Mary's College in Emmetsburg, Md., graduating with a BA in 1943. He then entered Mount Angel Seminary in St. Benedict, Ore., to finish priestly training.

Heretick was ordained in the Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore, Md., in 1947. He was assistant pastor in the parishes of Sacred Heart Church in Glendive and at St. Joseph Catholic Church and St. Ann's Cathedral in Great Falls. While at St. Ann's he also administered the Heisey Memorial Youth

Center.

He was appointed administrator of St. Mathias Parish in Moore in 1952. He remained there two years before being transferred to Culbertson as pastor of St. Anthony's Parish. During his 12 years there, he supervised the building of a new church and rectory.

Heretick then went to St. Joseph Church in Plentywood for four years before being reassigned as copastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Billings in 1970. He became pastor

of the parish in 1974.

In 1983 he assumed the responsibilities of St. Mary's Parish in Columbus. He retired in November 1987, then returned to Billings to minister on a limited schedule.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews.