

Rev. Stephen Sramek, pastor and teacher

The Rev. Stephen Sramek was a former pastor of St. Benedict Catholic Church and St. Andrew Catholic Church and had been a teacher at St. Benedictine High School.

Since 1976, he had been pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bad Axe, Mich.

Father Stephen, 72, had a fatal heart attack Friday in the St. Joseph rectory. He had been in apparent good health until then.



**Father
Stephen**

He entered the order of Benedictine monks in 1930 and took his first vows the next year at St. Andrew Abbey here.

He was born in Chicago and was graduated from St. Procopius High School and St. Procopius College in Lisle, Ill. He was ordained in 1937 in St. John Cathedral here.

From 1937 to 1946 he taught mathematics, physics and chemistry at Benedictine. He had taken graduate work in these subjects at Western Reserve University.

Father Stephen began his career in parish ministry in 1946 when he was assigned to St. Benedict as assistant

pastor. The next year he was pastor of St. Peter Catholic Church in Fort William, Ont., Canada, and then was assigned to St. Michael Catholic Church in Chicago, where he was assistant pastor until 1952.

For the next five years he was pastor at SS. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church in East St. Louis, Ill., and in 1957 he became pastor of St. Andrews parish here.

Father Stephen stayed at St. Andrew until 1971. He was pastor of St. Benedict from 1974 until he went to Bad Axe in 1976.

Brothers, John, Joseph and Charles, and sister, Mary Biel, survive.

Services will be at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow in St. Benedict, 2940 East Blvd.