

Father William J.

Connor

Father William J. Connor, M.S.C., was born on February 18, 1929 in the diocese of Marquette, to William David and Esther (Dahlstrom) Connor. After completing high school at L'Anse, he entered Sacred Heart Mission Seminary, Geneva, Ill., where he completed a year of college. In 1950, he began his novitiate in Shelby, Ohio, making his first profession of vows on September 14, 1951. He continued his studies for the priesthood at Sacred Heart Seminary in Shelby, making perpetual profession in 1954. The Most Rev. George Rehring, Bishop of Toledo, Ohio, ordained him a priest on September 21, 1975 in Shelby. His first assignment was as a teacher in Sacred Heart Minor Seminary in Geneva, Ill., from 1958-72. During this period, he attended DePaul University, Chicago, Ill., and received a master's degree in English in 1966. For an interval thereafter, he served as principal and dean of studies. Since 1972, he had been stationed in Watertown, N.Y. His ministry included teaching at Immaculate Heart High School for five years and parochial vicar for Our Lady of the Sacred Heart for two years. From 1974-84, he was the bishop's liaison for Charismatic Renewal. Since 1983, he was a full-time chaplain at the Watertown Correctional Facility until illness forced his retirement in 2003. He came to Sacred Heart Villa in September 2004, where he died October 9, 2004.

Survivors: Brothers, Dennis and Donald, and sisters, Darlene Smith and Carole Froberg, all of L'Anse, Mich.

Services: co-celebrated Mass of Christian Burial, 10 a.m. Tuesday, October 12, 2004 in the chapel of Sacred Heart Villa, 3300 Station Avenue, Center Valley, with the Very Rev. Joseph Jablonski, M.S.C., Provincial Superior of the Provincia of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart as principal celebrant. Viewing will take place from 7-9 p.m. today, October 11, 2004 in Sacred Heart Villa. The Rev. E. Michael Camilli, M.S.C., Superior of the Pennsylvania Regional Community of the Missionaries of the Sacred, will officiate at a Christian Wake Service at 8 p.m. Funeral services will be held the following day in Father Connor's home parish of Sacred Heart, 16 S. Sixth Street, L'Anse, Mich. Interment will be in the parish cemetery. Reichel Funeral Home, Nazareth, is in charge of arrangements.

Please sign Guest Book on mcall.com/obits

Morning Call, October 11, 2004