

Deaths

Father Cross Dies, At Aquinas 30 Years

Father James F. Cross, CSB, a science teacher at Aquinas Institute for 30 years, died unexpectedly last Friday, Feb. 27, 1976, the day before his 60th birthday.

He suffered a heart attack at school and died at Rochester General Hospital shortly after noon.

The funeral was held at Holy Rosary Monday, with burial in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Father Cross was in his 26th consecutive year at Aquinas teaching biology and physics. Earlier, he had taught here for four years, at St. Michael's, Toronto, for two years, and at Catholic Central High School in Detroit for a year.

He was a native of Detroit and a graduate of Catholic Central and of the University of Toronto, class of 1939. He was ordained in 1944. He did graduate work in science and education at Wayne State, the University of Detroit and Cornell, and took a master's degree in education in 1958 at the University of Rochester.

For years, he served as chaplain to Catholic Boy Scouts at Camp Massewepie. "When he didn't go himself, he found someone else to do it; he took care of that whole thing for us," Bishop Dennis W. Hickey said.

His nickname among the students was "Jungle Jim," a

Russell P. Lyon

Auburn — Russell P. Lyon died Feb. 14, 1976 following a brief illness. The Mass of Christian burial was celebrated Feb. 17 at Sacred Heart Church.

Mr. Lyon's survivors are his wife, the former Frieda Meyer, a son, Richard, a daughter, Mary, his parents Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Lyon and a half-brother, Lawrence.

Mr. Lyon was a member of Sacred Heart Parish where he served as president of the parish council and was active in the local Marriage Encounter movement.

Knights of Equity Set Dinner-Dance

The Knights of Equity and Daughters of Erin will have their 41st annual St. Patrick's Day dinner-dance at Barry's Party House on Wednesday, March 17.

Mayor Thomas P. Ryan will address the guests. Bishop John E. McCafferty will be the main speaker.

Kodak's Total Sound will entertain after dinner. Dancing will follow after the entertainment.

Barry O'Brien is chairman of the party. Tickets may be purchased from James F. McCormick, 671-2379, or Thomas R. Coughlin, 288-5758.

CIM DIALOGUE

Elmira — Brother John Brown, a Benedictine monk of Mount Saviour Monastery, will speak at the Christian Institute of Man lecture series at 8 p.m. on Monday, March 8. His subject will be "Understanding the Indian Vision Quest." It will take the form of a dialog with John Deconte, an Algonquin Indian from Quebec. Brother John, who has lived on the land and assisted with the farm at Mount Saviour, will discuss with Deconte some of the life and spirit of Black Elk. The discussion will center on John Niehard's book, Black Elk Speaks.

punning reference to the elaborate constructions and apparatus he built in the laboratory.

Father Albert Gaélens said his colleague had a special regard for St. Thomas Aquinas and "would always propound a point of theology with St. Thomas says."

On the day of his death, the principal reported, Father Cross led the community in morning prayer, using readings from St. Thomas. During lunch hour, he collapsed at the foot of the St. Thomas statue that dominates the lobby.

Father Cross's survivors are two sisters and a brother, Mrs. Constance McDonald of Durham, N.H., Mrs. Olive Louissell of Grosse Pointe, Mich., and Dr. Lawrence Cross of Dayton, O., also, two aunts and several nieces and nephews.

Christians Share Death In Rare Waking Rites

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn — An elderly man died after a long and fruitful life. The last few hours before his body was committed to the soil his friends waked him in state before the altar in the church he loved and served.

William Riester's body was brought to St. Mary's church in the early evening and the last hours of the wake were held in the church. The Mass of Christian Burial was at 9 p.m. Feb. 20.

For years it has been the tradition that the pastor and priests' body be moved to the church in state before the altar they had so often served. So it would seem appropriate for any Christian to have this opportunity available to

him," said Msgr. James D. Cuffney, pastor.

"A Christian burial is one of the deepest community experiences there is. Some think a funeral should be a very private affair and this public celebration might cause some disturbance. The rite of Christian burial should be a community celebration since a Christian has shared with and been affected by many other Christians in his lifetime," stated Msgr. Cuffney. He celebrated the Mass.

Father James C. Enright, associate pastor, added that "Death is probably the most lonely experience ever, and yet as a community we should realize that all things in the family of God are shared. The only way we can really

share in the falling asleep in the Lord is the sharing of the spiritual aspect of it."

St. Mary's with its Gothic architecture, with its soaring columns rising forward, symbolizes a rising up to the Lord. A mural of the risen Christ rises behind the altar in simple, majestic splendor.

Coming home to the Father, as he came to the Father in baptism, he returns to the church to spend his last few hours before the Mass.

NOVENA

Auburn — The Sorrowful Mother novena will continue at 7 p.m. Wednesdays through Lent at St. Aloysius on Van Anden Street.

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