

Obituaries

Father Joseph Dorsey, CSB; St. John Fisher administrator

Basilian Father Joseph B. Dorsey, an academic renowned for the lengths to which he would go to help people in trouble, died Wednesday, Dec. 28, 1988, at Strong Memorial Hospital. He was 73.



A former dean of students and interim president of St. John Fisher College, Father Dorsey had served the Pittsford college since 1961, when he was appointed vice president, dean and associate professor of English.

From 1985 until illness forced his retirement early this summer, Father Dorsey also served as associate pastor at Christ the King Parish in Rochester.

"His giftedness was his ability to listen to people in trouble. He was a friend to anyone who would come, completely and totally," said Father Donald E. McCarthy, a fellow Basilian who is pastor at Christ the King. "He was very giving of his time — he didn't care what hour of day or night it was ... He would jump in his car and drive to the Pennsylvania state border to see

someone in trouble. He went beyond the normal standards for giving help."

The son of John W. and Margaret Barrett Dorsey of Syracuse, Father Dorsey was born in 1915, and attended several Syracuse-area schools before entering St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto, Canada. After completing a bachelor's degree in 1938, Father Dorsey taught at St. Michael's College School in Toronto and Catholic Central High School in Detroit, Mich., for several years, and studied for four years at St. Basil's Seminary in Toronto. He later earned graduate degrees from Catholic University of America, the University of Ottawa and the University of Detroit.

Father Dorsey was ordained to the priesthood as a member of the Congregation of the Priests of St. Basil in 1942, and taught at Rochester's Aquinas Institute from 1944-47, where he also coached basketball. From Aquinas, he moved back to St. Michael's College, serving as an instructor, director of student affairs and assistant professor of English for more than 14 years.

In 1972, Father Dorsey ran as a Democrat for the New York State Senate — becoming the first Roman Catholic priest to seek such a seat.

Nine years after his initial appointment to St.

John Fisher, which was established by the Basilians in 1948, Father Dorsey was named executive vice president and a member of the board of trustees. He resigned his administrative post briefly to return to teaching, but was named acting dean of student life in 1973 and assistant to the president for alumni affairs in 1976.

The following year, Father Dorsey was chosen to represent the eastern region of the United States to the General Council of the Basilian Fathers, which administers policies and procedures of the congregation. He was succeeded in that post eight years later by Father Joseph Trovato, the former chaplain at Fisher and a friend who delivered the homily at Father Dorsey's funeral Mass.

"He enjoyed life, and he was a man of great service to the Church and to people from every walk of life," Father Trovato recalled. "He was also a man of great faith who accepted the Lord's will in his life."

In addition to his contributions to St. John Fisher and Christ the King, Father Dorsey served numerous boards, associations and community organizations, including the Diocesan Priests Council, the Friends of the Rochester Public Library, The Monroe-Wayne Chapter of the

March of Dimes, the National Education Association of the United States and American Association for Higher Education.

Friends and relatives of Father Dorsey attended a Vespers service Friday evening, Dec. 30, at Christ the King Church, where his body lay in state. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Saturday morning at Christ the King.

Father Dorsey is survived by his brother, John W. Dorsey; a sister, Margaret D. McCarthy of Syracuse; several nieces and nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews and cousins.

Ernesta Del Prince; parish staff member

Ernesta M. Del Prince, a staff member at Good Shepherd Parish and a former director of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement in Rochester, died Monday, Dec. 12, 1988, in the Alden Unit of Hospice Buffalo after a short illness. She was 64 years old.

A memorial Mass for Del Prince was celebrated at Good Shepherd Church on Monday, Jan. 2, 1989.

Since retiring from teaching in the Rush Henrietta schools in 1981, Del Prince had been a staff member at Good Shepherd, where she developed and organized the parish program for catechumens. She also served on the executive committees for the Buffalo and Rochester Billy Graham Crusades. Long involved with the Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement in Rochester, she was for several years part of the three-member team that directed the movement in the diocese.

A graduate of Sacred Heart Academy in Buffalo and the former Buffalo State Teachers' College, Del Prince held a master's degree in education. From 1965 through 1972, she worked as a volunteer in Latin America under the sponsorship of the Diocese of Buffalo. She was sent to La Paz, Bolivia, to serve as a school guidance counselor, but soon after her arrival she took over supervision of an unfinished school building and completed its construction with the help of local volunteers, including her students. She also obtained U.S. foreign aid to build a water storage tank that provided fresh drinking water and personal hygiene facilities for an impoverished neighborhood in La Paz.

For her work in promoting education in Bolivia, the Bolivian government awarded Del Prince the Emblem of La Paz.

Del Prince is survived by: four brothers, Louis, Frank and Paul, all of Buffalo and Gerald of Florida; and two sisters, Mary Beth Arthur of New Mexico and Caroline Lina of Buffalo.

Father Walter J. Kohl; taught science to seminarians

Father Walter J. Kohl, longtime professor of science, died at St. Ann's Home on Dec. 27, 1988, at the age of 91.



The son of Louis J. and Margaret Kohl, Father Kohl was born in Rochester and attended Blessed Sacrament School, Nazareth Hall, and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He was ordained to the priesthood in St. Patrick's Cathedral by the late Archbishop Thomas F. Hickey on June 10, 1922. He subsequently earned the degrees of

master of arts and doctor of philosophy from St. Bonaventure University in 1934.

Father Kohl spent the first 23 years of his priesthood as professor of science at Aquinas Institute and St. Andrew's Seminary. In 1945, he was named pastor of St. Mary's of the Lake Church in Watkins Glen and in 1947 was appointed pastor of St. Boniface Church, Rochester. Due to ill health, Father Kohl retired in June, 1959, and resided at the rectories of St. Augustine and Holy Apostles churches until his declining health brought him to St. Ann's Home.

The words of Genesis have often been applied to the faculty of "old" St. Andrew's Seminary: "They were giants in their days." Father Kohl,

who instilled a love of science in the young aspirants for priesthood, was also a model for his brother faculty members. His skill in science was matched by his pastoral spirit when he entered the parochial scene in Watkins Glen and St. Boniface. His zeal was not diminished with the devastation of St. Boniface by fire in early November of 1957, and he addressed all of his energies toward the building of the current edifice.

Father Kohl is survived by his nieces, Marjorie Dentz and Sister Kathleen Kohl, SSJ; nephews Eugene, Walter and John Kohl; and cousins.

Mass of the High Priest was celebrated at Holy Rosary Church on the evening of Dec. 28, followed by Mass of Christian Burial on Dec. 29. Interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Silver Creek native Father John Brill at 80

Father John Brill, son of the late Peter and Elizabeth Brill, died in Horseheads on December 31, 1988, after a long illness.



Born in Silver Creek, N.Y., on January 31, 1907, Father Brill attended Hornell High School, and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries before being ordained to the priesthood by the late Bishop John J. O'Hern in St. Patrick's Cathedral on June 11, 1932.

Despite his strong desire to engage in priestly ministry, Father Brill's health hindered him from completely fulfilling his goal. He willingly accepted many assignments in the diocese as associate pastor, administrator, chaplain and pastor. Yet in each instance, his heart could not

keep pace with his zeal and he had to seek extended therapy. He was able in later years to function as associate pastor, as much as his health allowed, at St. Vincent's Parish in Corning until he retired in 1972. His last years were spent at Bethany Center, Horseheads.

Father Brill is survived by his sister, Marion Conley of Silver Creek; his nephew, Peter B. Conley; and his nieces, Margaret Ludwick, Mercedes Skidmore and Charlotte.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated January 4 at St. Vincent's Church, Corning, with interment in St. Anne's Cemetery, Hornell.

Diocese, cable channel present Scripture series

"Share the Word," a weekly series of 30-minute programs focusing on Sunday Scripture readings, will be featured on cable Channel 12 in the City of Rochester, beginning in January.

Beginning Jan. 2 and continuing through March 19, each segment will be broadcast three times a week: Mondays, 2:30 p.m.; Thursdays, 11 a.m.; and Fridays, 10 p.m.

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