

Father Charles A. Bennett, pastor of St. Agnes, at 66

Father Charles A. Bennett, pastor of St. Agnes Parish in Avon since 1980, died of heart failure on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 1990, at the parish rectory. He was 66.

Father Bennett, a native of Auburn, attended St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries in Rochester. Ordained in June, 1949, he served in many capacities in the diocese, including assignments at St. Patrick's, St. Charles Borromeo and St. Mary's — all in Rochester. He was also a chaplain for Rochester Business Institute's Catholic students, and at Rochester Gen-

eral Hospital.

During Father Bennett's tenure as pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Rochester, the parish merged with St. Patrick's. Working with the Brown Square Development Corporation, the pastor helped meet the need for low-cost housing within the parish neighborhood.

In the early 1970s, Father Bennett helped plan and establish the Diocesan Priests' Retirement Program and the Priests' Disability Fund. Before those programs existed, priests relied on various informal ar-

rangements with the diocese, and contributed to a clergy relief fund in order to secure a pension for their retirement, according to Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey.

"He put together this plan whereby priests could retire at a certain age and be assured of a pension," Bishop Hickey recalled.

Father Bennett's concern for his community was reflected in his ecumenical work in downtown Rochester, and in efforts to revitalize the St. Thomas More

Lawyer's Guild.

In June, 1989, Father Bennett marked his 40th anniversary as a priest — a role which he deeply loved, according to his sister Eleanor Brayer, the priest's sole survivor. "Actually, he went into the seminary when he was 16," she said. "He always wanted to be priest from grammar school."

Bishop Hickey celebrated the Mass of Jesus Christ the High Priest for Father Bennett on Jan. 25 at 8 p.m. Bishop Matthew H. Clark presided at the Mass of Christian Burial, offered on Jan. 26, at 8 p.m. Father Bennett was to be interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Rochester. Mass offerings or memorial contributions may be directed to St. Agnes Church.

— Rob Cullivan

Father George C. Rosenkranz, shroud enthusiast

Redemptorist Father George C. Rosenkranz, known for his interest in the Shroud of Turin and his devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, died Saturday, Jan. 27, 1990, at Strong Memorial Hospital. He was 71.

Since 1980, Father Rosenkranz had served as parochial vicar at Our Lady of Victory/St. Joseph's Church, Rochester, caring in particular for the parish sick and elderly in addition to other pastoral work.

"He was a good, solid parish priest," said Father James J. King, C.S.S.R., pastor and rector of the downtown parish. "Whenever you put his name down for something, he was always there."

Although Father Rosenkranz suffered a mild heart attack last July, he had appeared to be in good health, Father King said.

Each Lenten season for the past several years, Father Rosenkranz toured area shopping malls with exhibits about the

Shroud of Turin, a strip of linen cloth believed by some to be Christ's burial cloth and to bear his image, despite recent testing that dated the cloth to medieval times.

Before coming to Rochester, Father Rosenkranz served at a Redemptorist retreat house in Tobyhanna, Pa. In the years since his 1943 ordination, the priest worked at parishes in Lima, Ohio, New York City, and St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

A New York City native, he attended St. Clement's College in Ilchester, Md., and Mt. St. Alphonsus Seminary in Esopus, Ulster County.

He is survived by five brothers and two sisters: John, Joseph, Paul, Alphonse and Gerard Rosenkranz; and Mary Kane and Theresa Smith; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark led a vigil service at Our Lady of Victory/St. Joseph's Church on Tuesday evening, Jan. 30. A Mass of Christian Burial was scheduled Wednesday, Jan. 31, with interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Redemptorist Fathers, care of Our Lady of Victory/St. Joseph's Church, 210 Pleasant St., Rochester, 14604.

— Teresa A. Parsons

Sister Lucida Rice, SSJ, longtime teacher

Sister Lucida Rice, SSJ, who taught in diocesan schools for 57 years, died in the St. Joseph Convent Infirmary on Saturday, Dec. 30, 1989. She was 90.

Sister Lucida was born in Ithaca. Her family moved to Rochester prior to her entrance into the Sisters of St. Joseph from St. Augustine's Parish in 1918. Sister Lucida earned a teacher's certificate from Nazareth Normal School in 1926.

Among the schools in which she taught were: St. Mary's, Canandaigua; St. Stephen's, Geneva; Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Brockport; St. Augustine, St. Ambrose and Holy Rosary, all of Rochester; St. Alphonsus, Auburn; St. John the Evangelist, Spencerport (where she was also principal); and St. Jerome,

East Rochester.

Sister Lucida retired from active teaching in 1977, when she moved to the order's motherhouse in Pittsford. She moved to the convent infirmary in 1982.

Friends remember Sister Lucida as a very lively person and an excellent teacher who brought out the best in all her students. She was always ready to listen and to help both students and parents, they said.

Monsignor William Shannon celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial for Sister Lucida in the motherhouse chapel on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1990.

She is survived by one sister, Marcella Hynes, as well as nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Workers

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Flynn. Volunteers teach the young workers carpentry skills and help "prepare them for the world of work," Sister Flynn said.

The relationship between Andrew's Center and the woodshop dates back seven years to the day Sister Flynn joined the community at St. Andrew's Convent on Barberry Terrace.

While not one of the official foster parents, Sister Flynn helped care for the children in a variety of ways. Through the woodshop, she was able to supply Andrew's Center with wooden toys, picture frames, cabinets, and table-and-chair sets.

Over the year's, children from the center have also visited the woodshop, located on the property of St. Michael's Parish on North Clinton Avenue.

When the Andrew's Center moved across town in November, woodshop workers built cabinets — one of the renovations needed to St. James Parish's convent before the foster-care community could move in.

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