

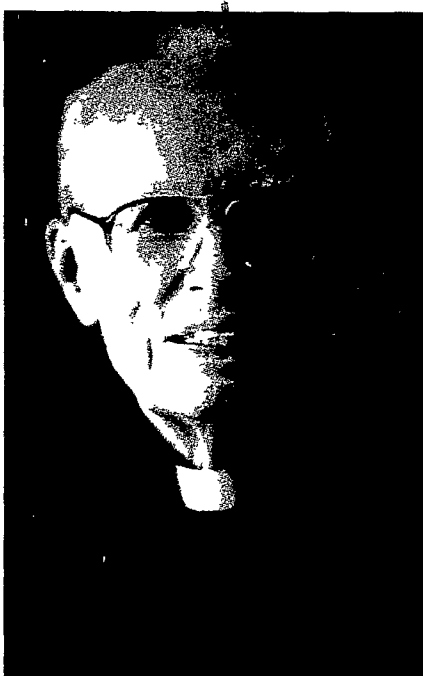
Msgr. John Duffy; missions director

Mike Latona/Catholic Courier

Msgr. John F. Duffy, former director of the diocesan Office for the Propagation of the Faith and pastor of four parishes, died Feb. 13, 2003, at the Sisters of Mercy McAuley Residence in Rochester following a long illness. He was 82 years old.

A native of Rochester, Msgr. Duffy grew up in St. Monica's Parish. He attended St. Monica's School, Aquinas Institute, and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He was ordained Dec. 22, 1945, by Bishop James E. Kearney.

Following ordination, he served as assistant pastor at St. James, Waverly (1946-48); St. Mary's, Canandaigua, (1948-53); St. Cecilia's,



his visit to missions in Brazil and Chile.

Also in 1966 he was named a monsignor by Pope Paul VI, making him the second family member to serve the Rochester Diocese as a monsignor. Msgr. Duffy's uncle was Msgr. John M. Duffy, who died in 1980.

Father Eugene H. McFarland, a good friend for more than 40 years, said Msgr. Duffy had an engaging personality and was well received by priests around the diocese when he made weekend visits for mission appeals in his role with Propagation of the Faith.

"I think most pastors would be glad to see him, even though he was coming to take a collection," chuckled Father McFarland, a retired diocesan priest. "He was a priest's priest. He was good company; he had a great sense of humor."

In 1969 Msgr. Duffy became pastor of St. Mary's in Dansville, where he served for three years. His other pastorates were at St. Catherine, Addison (1972-76); St. Francis,

Phelps (1976-83) and St. Philip Neri, Rochester (1984-86). He also held assignments at St. Agnes, Avon (1984); St. John of Rochester, Fairport (1986); Church of the Nativity, Brockport (1986-88); and St. Patrick, Victor (1988-90).

Father McFarland noted that Msgr. Duffy had "an exceptional memory" and was particularly adept at remembering historical details about priests of the diocese. Msgr. Duffy remained consistently down-to-earth in his ministry, Father McFarland said.

"He was holy, but he wasn't pious," Father McFarland commented.

Msgr. Duffy retired in 1990 and lived in the Diocese of Syracuse for several years before moving to the McAuley Residence for the final few years of his life.

His funeral Mass took place Feb. 17 at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse, with Bishop Matthew H. Clark presiding. Interment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Msgr. Duffy is survived by several nieces, nephews and cousins. Donations in his memory may be made to the Sisters of Mercy, 1437 Blossom Road, Rochester, NY 14610.

Sister Esther Donovan, MM

Maryknoll Sister Esther Donovan (formerly Sister Miriam David) died on Jan. 27, 2003, at the Maryknoll Sisters Center in Ossining, N.Y. She was 89 years old and had been a Maryknoll sister for 73 years.

Born in Auburn, she attended St. Mary parochial school and Auburn Academy. She entered the Maryknoll congregation in 1930, professed her final vows in 1936 and received her teaching certificate in 1937. She also earned a Bachelor's degree in Education from Maryknoll College in 1942.

Sister Donovan spent 33 years in Oahu, Hawaii, as a teacher, administrator and regional superior. From 1970 to 1989 she served as teacher, director of in-service teacher training and school librarian in Mahalo, Marshall Islands, and for four years at the Maryknoll Sisters Center, which included an assignment as coordinator of Maryknoll's facility serving elderly and infirm sisters. She entered semi-retirement in 1991 in Oahu and returned to the Maryknoll Sisters Center for full retirement in 1994.

Sister Donovan is survived by her sister, Sister Agnes Donovan, MM; her nephew, Joseph (Nancy) Donovan of Auburn, and sister-in-law, Ann Donovan of Auburn.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Jan. 31 with burial in the Maryknoll Sisters Cemetery in Ossining.

Irondequoit, (1953-55); St. Stephen's, Geneva (1955-60); and Holy Cross, Rochester, (1960-61).

He was named director of the Office for the Propagation of the Faith in 1961 and remained in that position until 1969. In 1966 he wrote a report for the *Catholic Courier* (then known as the *Courier-Journal*) about

Sr. Mary Bonaventure Hall, RSM

Sister of Mercy Mary Bonaventure Hall died on Feb. 9, 2003, at the Sister of Mercy Motherhouse in Rochester, where she resided for 62 of her 63 years in the congregation. She was 81.

Born Elizabeth Hall, she was a member of Rochester's St. Boniface Parish, and joined the congregation upon her graduation from Mercy High School in 1939, professing final vows in 1945. She earned a bachelor's degree from Nazareth College, a master's degree from the University of Notre Dame and her doctor-

ate in secondary school administration from St. John's University.

Following an assignment at St. Charles Borromeo School in Rochester in 1942, Sister Bonaventure taught at Mercy High School and Catherine McAuley College until 1968. While continuing as a math teacher at Mercy, she was vice principal from 1968-71. She served as principal from 1976 to 1983, then as teacher and head of the mathematics department until her retirement in 1988. She continued to serve the congregation's regional community

throughout her retirement.

Sister Bonaventure is survived by her sister, Rita Strowe Schubert; brothers, Charles and Thomas Hall; nieces and nephews; and the Sisters of Mercy.

Father Gerald Connors celebrated her funeral liturgy in the motherhouse chapel on Feb. 12, with burial in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Sisters of Mercy, 1437 Blossom Road, Rochester, NY 14610 or Mercy Outreach Center, 142 Webster Ave., Rochester, NY 14609.

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