

HORST, SM. Reverend Bernard Louis

(85) Died on Thursday, February 15, 2001. He was a member of the Society of Mary (Marianists) for 67 years. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, February 19, at 7:30 PM, following visitation (6:30 PM to 7:30 PM), at Queen of Apostles Chapel, Mount Saint John. Interment will take place in Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Mount Saint John, 4435 East Patterson Rd.; on Tuesday, February 20, at 9:00 AM. He was born on August 4, 1915, in Cleveland, the son of Edwin and Cecilia (Vetter) Horst. After completing a year at Cathedral Latin School in Cleveland, he entered the Marianist postulate in 1931. On August 15, 1934, after a year of novitiate, he professed first vows in the Society of Mary at Mount Saint John. Four years later, on August 8, 1938, he made perpetual profession in the Immaculate Conception Chapel of the University of Dayton. He began teaching at Purcell High School, Cincinnati (1937-42; 51-52). Other assignments included St. John Baptist High School, Philadelphia (1945-51); North Catholic High School, Pittsburgh (1952-54); Chaminade High School, Mineola, NY (1954-57; 61-65); and Archbishop Moeller High School (1965). He taught English, religion, and Latin, while also sometimes serving as chaplain. In the course of these years he also attended St. Meinrad Seminary, St. Meinrad, Indiana (1942-45), and was ordained a priest in Cincinnati on February 24, 1945. Having earned a BS in Education in 1937 from the University of Dayton, he continued his education, being awarded an MA in English from the University of Cincinnati (1952) and a PhD in English from Fordham University (1973). While studying at Fordham, he served as chaplain to the Marist Brothers of Mt. St. Michael Academy, Bronx, NY (1957-61; 66). He joined the faculty of the University of Dayton in 1965, teaching English there until 1984. Among other activities, he was an adviser and member of the Knights of Columbus Council at the university and also chaplain of the Greater Dayton Chapter of the Knights of Columbus. Concerned about faculty rights, he was a committed member of the University of Dayton Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, serving as its president (1972-74), as well as of the Faculty Board and Faculty Grievance Committee. Retired from the university, he devoted himself to full time ministry as pastor of St. John Bosco Parish in Mattawan, MI (1984-94). After ten years, age required him to retire to Marianist communities in Kalamazoo, MI (1994-1998). In 1999 health issues required him to transfer to the Franciscan at St Leonard. Somewhat brusque in movement, nonetheless he had an avid interest in golf and jogging. Even on the day he died, he was seen circling the hallways of St. Leonard in his wheelchair, a practice he seemed to substitute for the jogging he had loved to do until his retirement there. His conversation and writing was often spiced with humorous twists. And his lifelong devotion to his vocation was evident in a comment he made on the occasion of the diamond jubilee of his first profession of vows: "By being a Marianist, I am a member of a modern, dynamic, effective, democratic order doing Jesus' work in the world under the guidance of Mary, his mother. How much closer to Jesus can you get?" He was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers, Donald, Thomas, Edwin, and Gordon, a priest of the Cleveland Diocese, and his sister, Doris. Surviving him are his brothers, Newton and Richard, and his sisters, Grace, Marjorie, Betty Vanecek, Rosemary Reinhard, and Mary Louise Brooks. Memorial contributions may be made to the Society of Mary (Marianists), 4435 East Patterson Road, Dayton, OH 45430-1095.