

Fr. Francis Leo MULLIN 79 USA

* Nov. 27, 1909 Philadelphia

+ Feb. 19, 1989 Cornwells

He entered Cornwells in 1929 for four years of studies before going to Ridgefield for his novitiate, and he made his profession there Aug. 15, 1935. His senior seminary studies were done at Ferndale, where he was also ordained June 23, 1940.

The following year he got his first assignment as an assistant at Sacred Heart, Detroit, till 1944. After two interim appointments to Cornwells and Holy Ghost, Marksville, LA, he worked for two years at Holy Ghost, Opelousas.

Notre Dame, Chippewa Falls, WI, received him as an assistant in 1946. In 1949 he applied for a chaplaincy in the Navy, but was turned down. After some emergency substitute work at St. Peter Claver's, Philadelphia, he went to Our Lady of the Valley, Hemet, CA. Except for another four month emergency assignment to St. Catherine's, Riverside, CA., in 1953, he stayed there till 1960--the last six years as pastor.

In 1960 he came East again to serve as pastor of St. Mary Magdalene in Tiverton, R.I. Two years later, he assumed the same position at St. Joseph's, Herndon, VA. Illness forced him to resign in 1963 and he spent a few months at Ferndale in substitute ministry. In mid-1963 he could go again to serve as pastor of St. Benedict's, Detroit. When this parish was handed over to the Josephites in 1964, he went to Rhode Island, serving there for four years as pastor of St. Christopher's, Tiverton.

After a year at Holy Childhood's national office in Pittsburgh, he spent three months at Holy Spirit, Tuscaloosa, AL, and then had to resign because of illness. He recuperated at Cornwells.

In 1970 he transferred to the USA-West Province and was temporarily

assigned to St. Catherine's, Riverside, CA, and then to Sacred Heart, Morrilton, AR. As his hearing became worse and reached the point of deafness, he was sent in 1971 to St. John's, Tucson, AZ, in residence, but with limited ministry. Still feeling very vigorous otherwise, he had great trouble with being idle most of the time. That's why he sought and obtained another assignment--to the Denver, CO, provincial residence, hoping that he could still do some office work there.

When this did not work out, he returned to the USA-East Province and was sent in 1971 to the New Canaan Retreat House, CT, serving there as community bursar.

Two years later he took up residence at St. Catherine's, Little Compton, RI. In 1975 he was officially put on retirement status. After spending some time at the Sarasota, FL, residence, he went in 1977 to the Cornwells retirement community. He died there twelve years later of respiratory failure in a local hospital. Interment took place at the Cornwells community cemetery.

Wherever he was stationed in his active years he gave his very best and earned the appreciation of his superiors for his priestly zeal.