

Fr. James Andrew Marron 85 USA TZA

* Jan. 29, 1902 Greenwich, Ct. + Nov. 15, 1987 Bethel Park, Pa.

He entered Cornwells junior seminary in 1915 and made his profession in Ferndale Aug. 15, 1921. His senior studies there were interrupted by two years of study and prefecting at DU Prep., 1923-25. Returning to Ferndale, he attended the theology classes and was ordained a priest there Aug. 27, 1927

His first assignment took him in 1928 to Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, the third American Spiritan to go to that territory which then had not yet been entrusted to the care of the USA Province of the Congregation. He was destined to stay there for nearly forty years.

During that time he had the happiness of witnessing how the seed of evangelization, carried and watered there by other Spiritans since the 1860's, began to bloom and develop into a mighty tree--a fully established African church under its own bishops in a independent nation.

In 1939 he became the District's Superior of Kilimanjaro, a position he held for twelve years. He was also Vicar General of the Bishop, with whom he worked hand in hand, all over that territory. We find him there in education at St. Patrick's college in Singa-Chini, in formation at the Brothers' novitiate, and in pastoral work in Rombo and Kilema.

Back in the USA at the age of 65, he served as hospital chaplain in Bay City, MI. Two years later we find him in Ferndale, where he remained very active. In 1979 he returned to Bay City, still rendering limited service. Total retirement followed in 1986 in Bethel Bark. After celebrating his diamond jubilee in 1987, he died there in his sleep. Burial was at St. Mary's cemetery in his native town of Greenwich, CT.