

REV. JOHN R. KANDA, C.S.Sp.

Rev. John R. Kanda, C.S.Sp. of Bethel Park a member of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit died Tuesday, March 16, 2004.

Father Kanda was born April 17, 1915 in Chicago IL. On August 15, 1935 he made his vows at Ridgefield CT and was ordained to the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary in Norwalk CT June 19, 1942. In 1943 he was assigned to the missions in Puerto Rico until 1948 when he became an instructor at Holy Ghost Prep School, Bensalem PA. In 1951 he was assigned to the Philosophy Department of Duquesne University until 1963 when he became assistant pastor at St. Benedict's Church, Detroit MI and also taught at Holy Ghost Fathers' Seminary, Ann Arbor MI. Father taught at Notre Dame High School, Riverside, CA, University of San Diego, St. Thomas Seminary, Denver CO and University of St. Mary, San Antonio TX (1965 to 1973) . He worked in pastoral ministry in California and Arkansas (1974-1976) and was Chaplain at St. Peter's Medical Center, N. Brunswick NJ while residing at Spiritan Hall, Bensalem until 1984. He was then appointed superior of Stella Maris Community, Sarasota FL until his retirement there in 1989. He was assigned to Libermann Hall, Bethel Park (1999) for reasons of health and died at St. John's Specialty Care Center, Mars PA.

Son of the late John and Mary Barna Kanda, Father Kanda was preceded in death by his sisters Elizabeth Sirovetz and Anne Hritz and his brothers, Rev. Michael Kanda, CSSp., Rev. Francis Kanda, CSSp and Joseph Kanda. He is survived by his brother Anthon Kanda, his sister, Mary Stercula and many nieces and nephews.

There will be viewing at Bethel Animation Center, 6230 Brush Run Road, Bethel Park on Thursday, March 18 from 7:00-9:00 PM. Eucharist will be celebrated on Friday, March 19 at 10:00 AM in the Chapel at Bethel Animation Center.

Viewing will also take place on Monday, March 22 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM at Holy Ghost Prep School, Bensalem PA followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 AM in the Prep School Chapel. Burial will take place in the community cemetery there.

In memory of Father Kanda, donations may be made to the Spiritans designated for retirement or for the education of future Holy Spirit Fathers, 6230 Brush Run Road, Bethel Park PA 15102.