

Fr. Philip Joseph HAGGERTY 83 USA

* Nov. 11, 1904 Philadelphia + Jan. 21, 1988 Philadelphia

He was 28 years old when, desirous to be a priest, he entered Cornwells in 1932 for three years of studies. Professed at Ridgefield, Aug. 15, 1936, he went to Ferndale for his senior studies and he was also ordained there June 20, 1941.

His first assignment sent him back to Philadelphia as assistant at St. Peter Claver's for four years; it was followed by one year at St. John's, Dayton, OH. Thereafter the Southern mission beckoned.

After a brief stay at St. Augustine's, Isle Brevelle, LA, he transferred to St. Paul's, Lafayette, LA, where he worked for ten years. In 1957 he became pastor of St. Katherine's, Leonville, LA. Three years later, we find him at St. Peter Claver's, Charleston, SC, where he became pastor in 1961.

When this black parish merged with white St. Patrick's in 1967, he successfully secured the integration of these two congregations as well as the consolidation of the two high schools attached to the parishes.

In 1970 this phase of his life was over and he became, first, superior of the Washington residence of the Congregation, and then in 1971 director of the Spiritan students at Chicago Theological Union. Two years later, the superior general appointed him provincial superior of the USA-East Province. He held this strenuous position for six years, guiding his confreres through that difficult time.

After his term of office was over in 1979, always ready to help out as needed, he filled several interim positions in Sarasota, FL., Cornwells and Chicago before his assignment to Cornwells in retirement. His retirement years, however, continued to be filled with temporary replacement

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positions in various places, as well as pinch-hitting for all kinds of emergencies.

Held in high esteem, he died of heart failure in a Philadelphia hospital. Burial was at the Cornwells community cemetery.

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