

Fr. Francis Adams, SCJ

1917-1993

Born in Aachen, Germany, Fr. Francis Adams, SCJ, was one of several Germans who came to the United States in the 1920s and 1930s to help establish the work of the Priests of the Sacred Heart in the country.

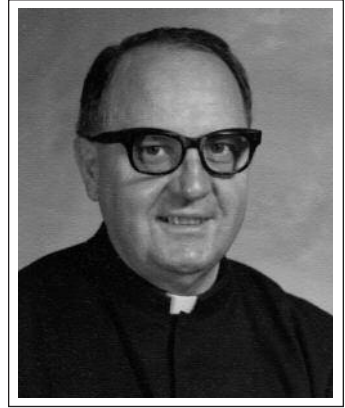
He began his studies for the priesthood in 1929 in Sittard, Holland. Before professing vows, he and nine other SCJ candidates were asked to complete their seminary training in the United States, where a new province had just been formed. They arrived in 1935.

Two years later, Fr. Francis made his first profession, and in 1943, he was ordained to the priesthood. During that time, he also became a U.S. citizen.

A teacher during much of his priesthood, Fr. Francis taught in the community's seminaries, including Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology (then, Sacred Heart Monastery), Divine Heart Seminary and Kilroe. He also taught at what is now Holy Family School in Holly Springs, Miss. A versatile educator, he taught college level courses in philosophy, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, theology and German, and high school physics, algebra, geometry and industrial arts.

He followed his teaching career with several parish assignments before being named chaplain at Mother of Good Council Home in Northwoods, Mo. (Archdiocese of St. Louis) in 1975. He ministered there until his death.

Fr. Francis enjoyed reaching out to other faiths. When asked what type of ministries interested him most he wrote, "any ministry where I am able to do ecumenical work, serving as a liaison between the Catholic Church and other denominations."



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