

# Fr. Wm. Denis Devine, SCJ

## 1902-1998

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New York native Fr. Wm. Denis Devine, SCJ, was born in 1902 and professed his first vows with the SCJs in 1940. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1945.

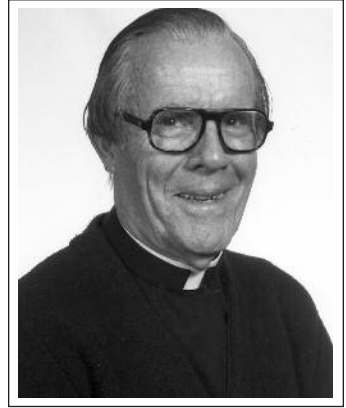
After two years of pastoral ministry in northern Mississippi he was assigned to St. Joseph's Indian School in Chamberlain, S.D. As prefect of boys he supervised the teaching staff and assisted at local parishes. In 1953, he came to East Chicago, Ind., where he began a long-term commitment to Catholics of northwest Indiana.

Fr. Devine spent 20 years as pastor of St. Jude parish in East Chicago, a primarily Hispanic parish. Fr. Devine developed several programs for the Spanish-speaking, including "Dehon College," an informal ESL program (English as a Second Language). The venture was financed in part by Inland Steel Company, where many of the Spanish-speaking parishioners worked.

When the parish closed in 1973, Fr. Devine left Indiana briefly to serve as a chaplain to Valley Baptist Hospital in Harlingen, Texas. After several years as associate pastor of St. Stanislaus parish in Dorr, Mich., he returned to northwest Indiana in 1977 to become associate pastor of Immaculate Conception parish in Whiting.

In 1980, he was appointed associate pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe in East Chicago, where he stayed until 1986. He was then named parochial vicar of nearby St. Mary's parish, an assignment he held until his retirement in 1993. He remained at St. Mary's for several years, visiting the sick at St. Catherine's Hospital and celebrating Mass at the parish.

He later joined the Villa Maria community in Franklin, Wis. He died on February 14, 1998.



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