

# Fr. Michael Noonan, SCJ

## 1924-1970

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Michael Noonan was born in Chicago on March 22, 1924. He entered Divine Heart Seminary in 1938 and made his first vows in Ste. Marie in 1943. Five years later he was ordained a priest

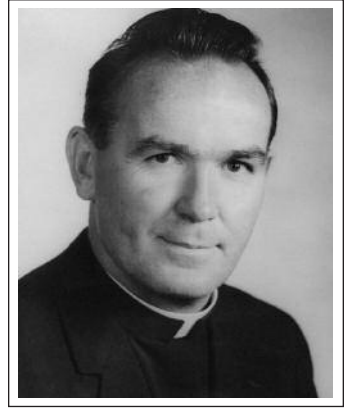
After ordination, he studied journalism at Marquette University for a summer and then was assigned to teach history, religion and English at Divine Heart. He also served as assistant dean of boys and athletic director. In 1951, he became dean of boys.

Several months later, he moved to Ste. Marie, where he became the novice master. In 1966, he was named provincial superior of what was then the North American Province. He travelled thousands of miles visiting the missions of Indonesia, South Africa and Zaire. Always a welcome visitor, he gave encouragement to the struggling missionaries and brought back a clear and optimistic vision of what they were doing; inspiring others to join their ranks.

"If we proceed together, welcoming ideas from old and young, evaluating them openly and putting them into practice together in charity, we will let the light of the Holy Spirit come shining through," said Fr. Noonan. Always ready with an open ear, Fr. Noonan constantly stressed the need for SCJs to share their ministry with each other. "Unity in the congregation must be fostered through communication on all levels."

While serving as provincial superior, he oversaw the completion of the new Sacred Heart Seminary School of Theology and handled preparations for the 1969 provincial chapter.

He died of a heart attack in 1970.



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