

# Fr. Dermot Twomey, SCJ

## 1931-2008

He was a slice of Ireland amid the southern charm of Mississippi; a bit o' blarney alongside the sweet drawl of his parishioners.

Fr. Dermot Twomey, SCJ, was a well-loved pastor at several Mississippi parishes, including Sacred Heart in Walls, Christ the King in Southaven and St. Gregory in Senatobia.

The SCJ died of cancer on March 25, 2008. He was 76 and had been a member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart since 1954.

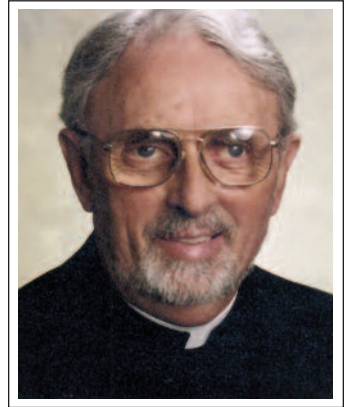
A brother serving in the British-Irish Province for many years, Fr. Twomey felt called to the priesthood following Vatican II. He came to the United States to study at Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corners, Wis., and was ordained in 1976. During his studies, he joined the U.S. Province.

His first assignment was at St. Cecilia parish in San Antonio, Texas. To prepare for the ministry, he went to Mexico to study Spanish. It was one of several times that he hit the books following ordination. He also earned a master's degree from the School of Applied Theology in Berkeley, Calif.

After seven years in Texas, he headed north to the Detroit area where he served at St. Alfred parish in Taylor and St. Raymond parish in Warren.

Following a sabbatical in 1988, he went to Mississippi to help at Sacred Heart parish in Walls. The short-term assignment eventually turned into a long-term commitment. Besides Sacred Heart (1988-90), Fr. Twomey ministered at Christ the King parish, Southaven (1990-97), St. Anthony Mission, Tunica (1998-99) and St. Gregory parish in Senatobia.

Fr. Twomey continued as a member of the SCJ community in Nesbit, Miss., following his diagnosis with cancer over a year before his death. His final days were in hospice care at the community house.



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