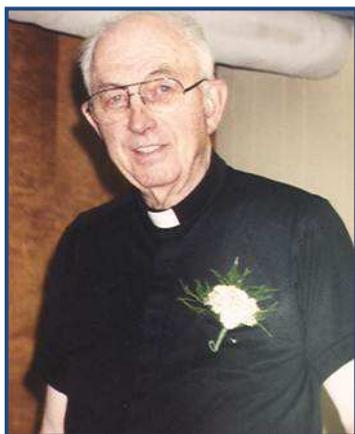


**CURIA GENERALIZIA MARIANISTI**  
Via Latina 22 - 00179 Roma, Italia  
Tel. (39-06) 704 75 892 - Fax (39-06) 700 0406  
E-mail: [gensecsm@smcuria.it](mailto:gensecsm@smcuria.it)

October 9, 2012

**Death Notice No. 23 (To all Unit Administrations):**



The Province of the United States of America, recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **FRANCIS KENNEY**, priest of the Mercy Siena Woods Marianist Community (Dayton), who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on September 25, 2012 in Dayton, Ohio, USA, at the age of 90 with 72 years of religious profession.

Francis John Kenney was born on November 5, 1921, in Dayton, Ohio, to Francis and Helen (Hess) Kenney. He had four brothers and two sisters. As a young man, Frank was an excellent athlete and was interested in sports throughout his life.

Frank entered the Marianist novitiate in 1939 and professed first vows later that year on August 14, 1939. After earning a degree from the University of Dayton, Frank began his career as a Catholic educator. His first assignment was at Most Holy Trinity High School in Brooklyn, New York, where he served from 1943 until 1946. Frank professed perpetual vows on August 15, 1944.

After serving at Most Holy Trinity, Frank went abroad to the seminary at the University of Fribourg in Fribourg, Switzerland, and was ordained in 1950.

Fr. Frank returned to the United States and between 1950 and 1955 served in Cleveland, Ohio, at Cathedral Latin School and St. Joseph High School, and in Hamilton, Ohio, at Hamilton Catholic High School. He then directed the second novitiate in St. Louis, Missouri.

Between 1961 and 1968, Fr. Frank served at St. Joseph High School as director of a community with more than 30 Marianist brothers. He spent the next 15 years in the student life department at the University of Dayton and served as chaplain of the football and basketball teams, a role he enjoyed.

Fr. Frank said his happiest days as a Marianist were between 1984 and 1999, when he served at Emmanuel Parish in Dayton. Many of his former parishioners attended his funeral. At Emmanuel, Fr. Frank enjoyed serving as spiritual director for pilgrimages to Marian shrines all over Europe, the United States and Mexico.

“He had a very strong devotion to Mary,” Fr. Tom Schroer said. “People were drawn to him for both his compassion and charisma.”

According to Fr. Tom Stanley, Fr. Frank led a Marian prayer group at Emmanuel with more than 250 members. He continued the ministry after he retired in 2000 to the Mercy Siena Retirement Community

in Dayton. He was affectionately known as “Fr. Candy” by the nurses at Mercy Siena because he gave their children candy when they visited.

Fr. Frank loved to tell jokes. One of his favorite was the story of two avid golfers who wondered if there would be golf in heaven. After one died, he visited his friend and told him he had good news and bad news. The good news was there was golf in heaven. The bad news was that the friend had a 1 p.m. tee time the next day.

May he rest in peace.