

**July 5, 1996**

**Father Herbert Eilerman, CPPS**



Father Eilerman was born Jan. 28, 1917, at Fort Loramie, Ohio. He began his seminary studies with the Society of the Most Precious Blood in 1928 and made his religious profession Dec. 8, 1933. He was ordained April 21, 1940, by Bishop George Rehring, auxiliary of Cincinnati, at Carthagen, Ohio.

His first four years of priestly ministry were spent in Pennsylvania parishes in Williamsport, Hanover, and Lebanon. From 1944 to 1948 he served as a missionary priest traveling to small Catholic communities in the area of Crewe, Va. He then served at St. John, Whiting, Ind.

In 1950, Father Eilerman received his first pastorate and only assignment in the Dodge City diocese at St. Joan of Arc, Elkhart. He served in this post until 1953.

He then served the Society in two terms as religious superior and procurator at St. Mary's Novitiate in Burkettsville, Ohio (1953-59).

In 1959, he moved to Wapakoneta, Ohio to begin a 10-year pastorate at St. Joseph Parish. Under his guidance, a new high school building was constructed, and the church was renovated in accord with the liturgical reforms following the Second Vatican Council. During his pastorate at St. Michael, Kalida, Ohio, (1969-80), he helped further enhance the parochial and scholastic scene by building a modern, spacious gymnasium. He served his last pastorate at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Cassella, Ohio, where he spent 10 years until he retired in 1990.

Father Eilerman died July 5, 1996, at the age of 83. His brother, Father William Eilerman, was the main celebrant at his funeral. Burial was at Carthagen.