

April 28, 1993

Rev. Timothy Gottschalk, OFM Cap



Father Timothy was born Nov. 23, 1906, in Schoenchen. He entered the Capuchin novitiate at St. Augustine's in Herman, Pa., and made profession of vows on July 14, 1927. He was ordained June 14, 1932, by the Most Rev. Emmet Walsh, bishop of Charleston, in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at Washington, D.C.

In 1984, he was inducted into the Kansas Teachers' Hall of Fame, located in Dodge City. He was the first teacher from a private school to be inducted, and to this day, the only Catholic priest.

He taught 50 years at St. Joseph's College and Military Academy and Thomas More Prep - Marian in Hays (1939-89). His areas of instruction were Music, Latin, English, German, religion and history.

Besides his work at TMP, he started the music department at Kennedy Middle School in Hays, where he also ran a summer band camp. He also taught at St. Fidelis College and Seminary in Herman, Pa., (1935-38).

Prior to his teaching career, he served as pastor of St. Joseph, Arma, and St. Gabriel, Mulberry, in the Wichita diocese. He was also pastor of St. Francis at St. Francis; St. Joseph, Bird City; and St. Severin, Severin, all in the Salina diocese.

Father Timothy died April 28, 1993, at St. John's Health Care Center in Hays. Father Charles Polifka, provincial of the Capuchin Province of Mid-America, celebrated the funeral at St. Joseph's Church, Hays. The Most Rev. George Fitzsimons, bishop of Salina, presided. Burial was in the friar's plot at St. Joseph's Cemetery.