

August 14, 1982

Father Francis Rehberger, CPPS



Father Rehberger was born Nov. 9, 1902, in Cleveland, Ohio. He entered the Society of the Precious Blood in 1924, and was ordained May 12, 1935, by the Most Rev. Joseph Albers, auxiliary bishop of Cincinnati, at St. Charles Seminary, Carthage, Ohio.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Augustine, Minster, Ohio; St. Anthony, Casper, Wyo.; returned to Minster, and then was assigned to the mission attached to St. Anthony, Park Falls, Wisc. In 1942 he was appointed pastor of Precious Blood Parish in Dodge, N.Dak.

Father Rehberger's only assignment in western Kansas came in 1950 when he was appointed pastor at St. Raphael, Syracuse, with care of the mission of St. Bernadette, Johnson. He served in this post for two years.

His remaining pastorates were at St. Augustine, Rensselaer, Ind., and Trinity, Bryant, Ind. At the parish in Rensselaer, he built the school and rectory.

He retired to the seminary in 1977. There he kept himself busy taking care of the snack bar, helping the Sisters in the kitchen and each week helping with the laundry. His love for a good game of pinochle was legendary.

Father Rehberger died Aug. 14, 1982, of abdominal complications at Coldwater Community Hospital, Carthage, Ohio. He was 70 years old. Father William Eilerman was the main celebrant at the funeral Mass. Burial was in the community cemetery.