

Religious from St. Mary's Parish

Native Poloans who have served or are now serving in the religious life are:

Rev. Joseph Michael Lonergan

Born: May 14, 1884 in Polo

Parents: John B. Lonergan and Mary E. Lynch Lonergan

Education: 1899-1900, Polo High School. 1900-1903, St. Viator Academy, Bourbonnais, Illinois. 1903-1904, St. Viator College, Bourbonnais, Illinois. 1904-1905, St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, New York. 1905-1906, Grand Seminary, Montreal. 1906-1907, St. Thomas Novitiate, Washington, D.C. (for Paulists). 1907-1909, St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore (Diocese of Rockford).

Ordination: June 27, 1909, by Bishop Muldoon at St. James Cathedral, Rockford

Service History: 1904-11, associate pastor at St. Mary's Church, Aurora.

1910-1917, pastor and founder of several churches in the Fox River Area including St. Ann's in Barrington, Sts. Peter and Paul in Cary, St. Thomas in Crystal Lake, St. Margaret's in Algonquin, St. Catherine in Dundee, and St. Mary's in Gilbert. 1917-1919, chaplain, United States Army. 1919-1920, chaplain, National

Catholic Welfare Council, 1920-1925, pastor, St. Mary's church in Durand and Irish Grove. 1925-1929, pastor at St. Mary's church in Rockford. 1929-1934, pastor at St. Mary's church in Woodstock. 1934-1952, pastor, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Menominee. 1952-1963, chaplain, St. Joseph's Hospital, Aurora.

Died: St. Joseph's Hospital, Aurora, October 8, 1967. Funeral Mass held at Holy Angels Church in Aurora. Burial at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Aurora on October 11, 1967.

Rev. John Patrick McGrath

Born: May 25, 1916

Parents: George Louis McGrath and Mary Elizabeth Lonergan McGrath

Education: 1920-1928, Woosung School. 1928-1933, Catholic Community High School, Sterling. 1935-1939, St.



Rev. Joseph Michael Lonergan

Ambrose College, Davenport, Iowa. 1939-1942, Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis (for the Diocese of Davenport).

Ordination: December 8, 1942 by Bishop Henry Rohlman at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Davenport, Iowa.

Service History: 1942-1959, instructor at St. Ambrose Academy, Davenport. Eight years of this time spent as the weekend assistant at Sacred Heart Parish in Sterling. 1959-1967, pastor of St. Patrick's church, Delmar, Iowa. 1967-1986, pastor and founder of St. John Vianney church in Bettendorf, Iowa. Served as Dean of the Davenport Deanery. 1986, retired from active ministry. Later moved to

Kahl House for the aged and infirm in Davenport. On December 6, 1992 he celebrated his golden jubilee as a priest at St. John Vianney Parish in Bettendorf. He is listed in the Newman High School Athletic Hall of Fame and at the St. Ambrose College Athletic Hall of Fame as a noted football player.

Rev. Edward Francis McGrath

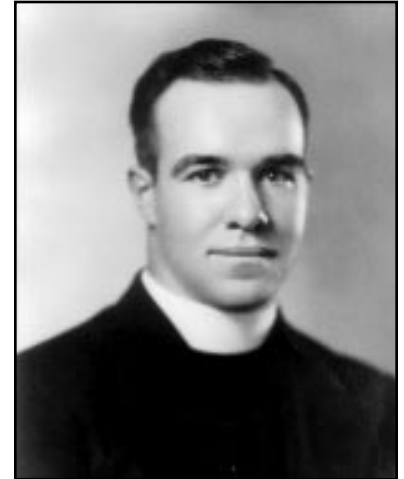
Born: September 3, 1954, KSB Hospital in Dixon.

Parents: Edward Francis McGrath and Patricia Duffy McGrath

Education: 1959-1972, Polo Community Schools. Graduated PCHS in 1972. 1972-1976, Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary, Winona, Minnesota. 1976-1980, St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota. 1989-1991, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy.

Ordination: June 2, 1980 by Bishop Watters of Winona at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Winona.

Service History: 1981-1989, instructor at Lourdes High School in Rochester, Minnesota. 1981-1983, also served as associate pastor at St. Francis Parish in Rochester, Minnesota. 1983-1987, also served as chaplain of Assisi Heights Convent in Rochester, Minnesota. 1988-1991, faculty of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona, Minnesota. 1988-1989, also served as instructor at Cotter High School. 1989-1991, on leave of absence to attend Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Italy. 1991-



Rev. John P. McGrath

chancellor of the Diocese of Winona. Adjutant Vicar Judicial of the Diocese of Winona. Spiritual Director of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary.

Sister Mary Lucilla McGrath

Born: March 18, 1903, Agnes Margaret-Mary McGrath

Parents: George Louis McGrath and Mary Elizabeth Lonergan McGrath

Education: 1908-1916, Woosung School. 1916-1920, Our Lady of the Angels Academy, Clinton, Iowa. 1921-1922, taught in Pine Creek School. 1922, entered convent as a postulant for Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Dubuque, Iowa, taking the name of Sister Mary Lucilla. 1924, profession as a Sister of Charity, BVM. 1930 DePaul University, A.B. in classical language. 1944, St. Louis University, M.A. in Latin.

Service History: 1924-1932, Chicago Annunciation. 1932-1947, St. Louis Xavier H.S., 1947-1957, Rock Island. St. Joseph H.S. and Annunciation. in Rock Island. Immaculate Conception Academy in Davenport (principal and counselor). 1957-1963, Provincial Superior. 1963-1966, Seattle, Blanchette H.S. 1966-1968, Assumption H.S., Davenport. 1968-1971, Administrator, Mt. Carmel, Dubuque. 1971-1976, Alleman H.S., Rock Island. 1973, volunteer work at Sacred Heart Parish, Rock Island. 1976, retired.

Sister Rosemary Empen, O.P.

Born: July 17, 1933

Parents: Bernard Empen and Josephene Burken Empen

Education: Graduated from Community Catholic High School in Sterling, Illinois. Graduated from Mt. Saint Clara College in Clinton, Iowa. Taught school in rural Forrester for two years.

Service History: 1955, Entered the Convent of the Sinsinawa Dominicans at Sinsinawa, Wisconsin. 1957-1962, St. Basil's School, Chicago, teaching first grade. 1962-1966, Corpus Christi School, New York City, teaching first grade and studying Spanish. 1966-1980, Santa Cruz Parish, Santa Cruz, Bolivia. At various times teaching first grade, third grade and fifth grade. Principal for five years. 1980-1986, South Sioux City, Nebraska. Hispanic



Sister Rosemary Empen, O.P.

Pastoral Ministry. 1986-1991, Holy Ghost Parish, Wood Dale, Illinois. Hispanic Pastoral Ministry. 1991-1996, Director of Guadalupe Pastoral Center (Hispanic Pastoral

Ministry), Madison, Wisconsin. 1996-Present, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Houston, Mississippi. Resident Pastoral Minister.

We have been unable to find any information on the following two religious from our parish. Any information or photos would be very much appreciated.

The Late Sister Mary Faith

B.V.M. (Frances Avey)

We have received information that she was a convert.

The Late Sister Mary Georgia

(Margaret Hackett)