

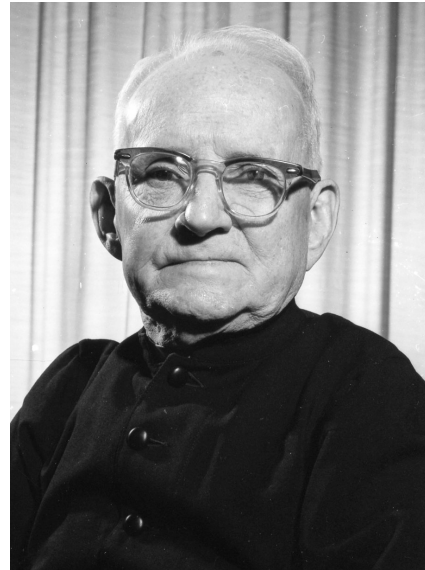
Legacy Project

May 12th

Brother Theogene (Frederick) Merline, C.S.C.

born: 18 September 1883

died: 12 May 1971



Theogene was born in Oconto, Wisconsin and attended schools there. He worked for 11 years as a clerk in a newspaper office. He entered Holy Cross in 1913, going to the juniorate at Watertown. He made his first vows in 1915 at the novitiate at Notre Dame. He studied at Notre Dame and started working at the Notre Dame Post Office in 1916. He was the postmaster for 24 years until he retired in 1945 after a total of 29 years of dedicated service. He was very conscientious in his work; hated to give an order twice. If the job wasn't done, he would do it himself. He had trouble with his legs and spent two years at St. Mary's Hospital in Milwaukee. He returned to Notre Dame in 1947 and resided at the Community House (Columba Hall). In 1950 he moved to the Community Infirmary (Holy Cross House) where he lived until his death in 1971. He kept busy with a number of favorite pastimes, making posters, telling stories, attending Mass, leg exercises, spending an hour in chapel everyday, reading his favorite magazines, and writing original poetry for the people in the house and visitors who came to see him.

The trusty messenger to those he is sent.

-- Proverbs 25:13

*Those who bring sunshine into the lives of others,
cannot keep it from themselves. -- James Barrie*