

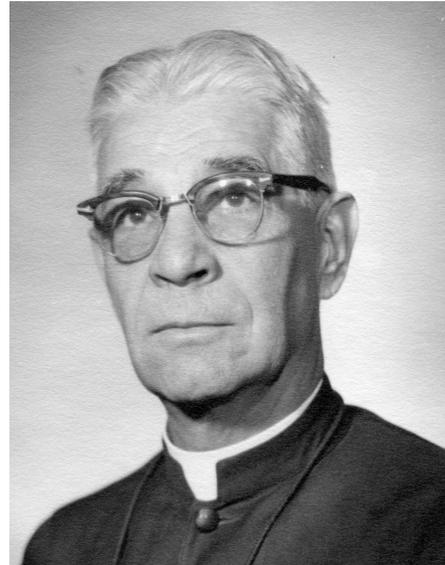
Legacy Project

June 20th

Brother Benedict (Felix) Gervais, C.S.C.

born: 3 February 1899

died: 20 June 1976



Benedict was born in Currie, Minnesota, the younger brother of Brother Bernard. He went to school in Currie and at the age of 13, he went to Sacred Heart Juniorate in Watertown, where his brother was the new superior. Benedict studied for 2 years and went to the novitiate at Notre Dame, made first vows in 1916 and completed his high school courses. He studied at Notre Dame, earned his bachelor's degree in 1931 and a master's in 1940. He began his teaching career in 1919 when he and Brother Ephrem opened Memorial High in Evansville. After 3 years there, he taught in Indianapolis and then went to Holy Cross High in New Orleans. He returned to teach at Indianapolis, then to Evansville, and back to New Orleans (for 10 years). He went to Evansville as principal in 1940, and then was principal at Cathedral in 1942 (for 5 years). He desired to return to teaching and went to New Orleans in 1947 for 19 years. In 1954, he joined the faculty of St. Joseph's High where he taught physics for 15 years until retirement in 1969. Benedict was always a 'tinkerer' and enjoyed designing and constructing his own physics gadgets for experiments. He was a talented woodworker and metalworker. In retirement at the Brothers' Center he enjoyed repairing and making furniture, picture frames, and wooden cases. For many years he was in charge of all the maintenance chores at the summer camps in Waveland and Bankson Lake where his expertise was greatly appreciated.

I will instruct you and teach you the way, I will watch over you and be your adviser. -- Psalm 32:8

In teaching you cannot see the fruit of a day's work. It is invisible and remains so, maybe for years. -- Jacques Barzun