

Legacy Project

January 12th

Brother Claude (Francis) Hartman, C.S.C.

born: 31 October 1899

died: 12 January 1977



Claude was born in Caldwell, Ohio. He worked on the family farm and served as a mechanic on other farms. He followed his vocation and joined Holy Cross in 1927, going to Watertown for study. He went to the novitiate at Notre Dame in 1929, making his first vows the following year. He was put in charge of maintenance at the farm at Dujarie Hall. In 1933, he was sent to St. Joseph Farm where he worked for a year, and then moved to the novitiate at Rolling Prairie working on the farm and acting as the steward for 3 years. His next assignment was to the farm in Valatie, and then he returned to Rolling Prairie. He took apart an old Ford tractor and with a number of spare parts built a functional one that lasted for many years. He was assigned to St. Joseph Farm in Granger in 1954. He had an unfortunate accident with a large buzz saw seriously injuring one of his hands. At first it was thought he wouldn't be able to operate a tractor again, but he overcame the injury to continue his work. In 1968 he moved to Indianapolis to tend to the maintenance needs at Cathedral High for 3 years. In 1971, he was assigned to Monroe in charge of the physical plant and maintenance. He was the true jack-of-all-trades handyman for the community's needs on farms and in schools.

The Lord judged me faithful and called me into his service.

-- 1 Timothy 1:12

Service is what life is all about.

--Marian Edelman