

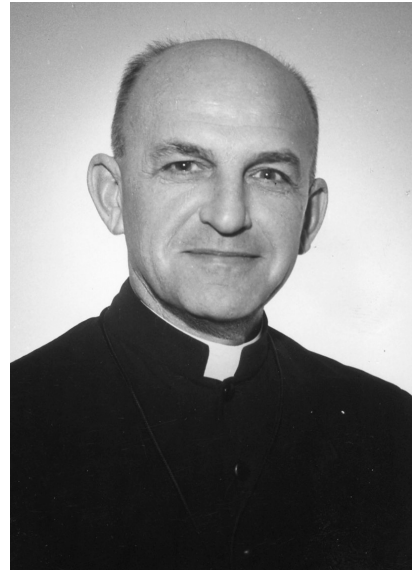
Legacy Project

November 5th

Brother Donatus (Harold) Schmitz, C.S.C.

born: 11 March 1911

died: 5 November 1978



Donatus was born in Chicago, where he attended schools. He worked as a bookkeeper and joined Holy Cross in 1935. He went to the juniorate at Watertown and made first vows in 1937. He began studies at Notre Dame earning a bachelor's degree in 1941, and a master's in 1949. His first teaching assignment was to Taunton. In 1945 he was made superior at Valatie, and the following year, became the superior at Watertown. In 1950 he was appointed principal at West Haven and in 1955 he became superior and founder of St. Francis High in Mountain View. In 1956 he was elected provincial of the Midwest Province, a position he held until 1968. Donatus was a dynamic leader and visionary. He moved his administration away from Columba Hall, closed the Bankson Lake Camp to further the education of the Brothers in summer schools, encouraged many to pursue advanced degrees, committed the province to Ghana, pioneered the development of the Ghanaian community, and planned the development of the Holy Cross Brothers' Center. Donatus was selected as First Assistant General at the 1968 Chapter, and served in Rome for 6 years. He returned to Notre Dame for study and was the province archivist. He developed ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) which gradually sapped this magnificent Brother's energy. He died at the Coloma cottage the place he loved to visit.

*Send your light and your truth, let these be my guide, to
lead me to the place where you live. -- Psalm 43:3*

*The people who shape our lives have the ability to
communicate a vision or a mission. -- Anthony Robbins*