

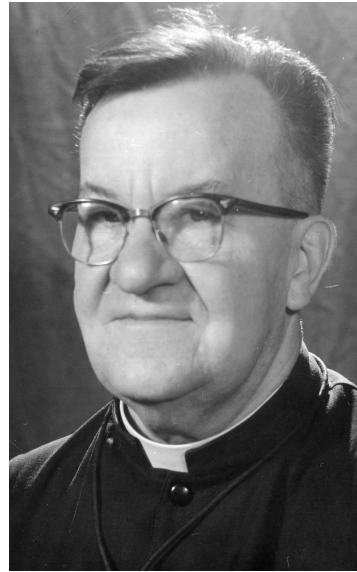
Legacy Project

May 9th

Brother Vianney (Martin) Dillon, C.S.C.

born: 11 February 1899

died: 9 May 1981



Vianney was born in Hagerstown, Maryland and attended school there. He joined Holy Cross, and went to the juniorate in Watertown in 1924. He attended the novitiate at Notre Dam and made his first vows in 1926. He worked at the Notre Dame post office and then at the Ave Maria Press. In 1930 he was given the singular privilege of carrying on the shoe repair work for the community made famous by the revered Brother Columba O'Neill. Vianney served in this work in his shoe shop in the basement of Columba Hall for 32 years. He adhered to a strict work schedule and had a 'companion' with him. He liked cats, each one was simply called 'Cat.' Vianney did not only repair shoes, but sometimes clothing too. He noticed one brother's trousers needed repair and patched them using the canvas remnants of a discarded umbrella! He liked to sing sometimes to the distraction of the hearers since his voice was more loud than it was good. His lower right leg was amputated above the knee, but he still managed to maneuver his wheelchair around to distribute laundry bags to the linen room.

*Commend your works to the Lord and your plans
will find achievement. -- Proverbs 16:3*

*The true way to render ourselves happy is to love our work
and find in it our pleasure. -- Francoise de Motteville*