May 13th

Brother James (John) Talarovic, C.S.C.

born: 4 May 1915

died: 13 May 1987

James was born in Cleveland and attended St. John Nepomucene schools. He joined Holy Cross at Sacred Heart Juniorate in 1931, and went to the novitiate, pronounced his first vows in 1934. He studied at Notre Dame, earned a bachelor of science degree in 1938. He taught at Cathedral High School for 2 years. In 1941, he was assigned to Bengal, India (now Bangladesh) where he spent the next 46 years of his life. James' leadership skills were evident in the roles he played in Bengal. He was superintendent of Toomilia Mission Schools and was headmasters at Toomilia Middle School, Holy Cross High School in Bandura, St. Gregory's High in Dhaka, St. Nicholas Institution in Nagari. He taught at St. Joseph's High in Mohammedpur. James was fluent in the Bengali language, gathering vocabulary and grammar books to produce a valuable book, "*Bengali for Foreigners*." He translated the works of Rabindranath Tagore, who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913 and also the songs of Lalon Shah, a Baul ascetic. One of the generous works that James did for his community was to compile a series of menu cards with simple directions for the cook to prepare a variety of wholesome, nutritious meals. His work helped train cooks so that they could earn better paying jobs in hotels. His devotion to the people of Bangladesh was legendary.

He guided them by a route leading away
from their sufferings. ***-- Psalm 107:7***

Leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders.
-- Tom Peters