

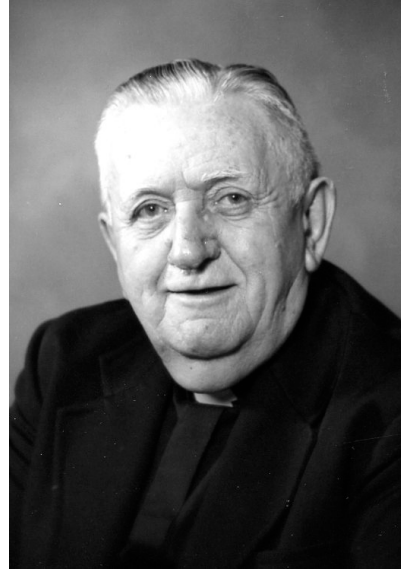
*Legacy Project*

**February 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Brother Elias (John) Ryan, C.S.C.**

*born: 31 January 1911*

*died: 12 February 1991*



Elias was born in Buffalo, NY and attended schools there. He worked as a waiter in restaurants and after graduating he was a mail carrier for 3 years. He entered Holy Cross, going to the juniorate in Valatie in 1937. He attended the novitiate in Dartmouth, Massachusetts, making his first vows in 1938. He worked in the business office of the University of Notre Dame for 4 years. In 1944 he went to the Holy Cross Foreign Mission Seminary in Washington, D.C. to work for their publicity magazine. In 1946 he returned to Notre Dame to work in the business office of the Ave Maria Press for the next 39 years while living at Columba Hall. He retired to a less busy life in 1985, spending his time between Columba Hall and California. He loved reading and assisted in organizing the house library by increasing the acquisitions. Elias was the rare Irishman who did not flaunt his Gaelic heritage, although he certainly was proud of it. His cheerfulness, good humor and devotion to work and especially prayer, were a fitting example to all.

*The Lord considered me trustworthy in appointing me to his work.*

**-- 1 Timothy 1:12**

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

**-- Francoise de Motteville**