

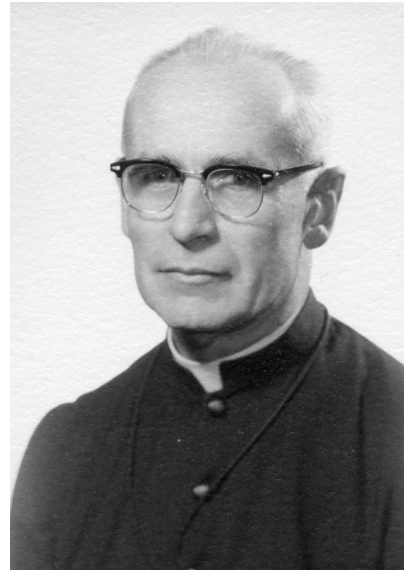
## *Legacy Project*

**October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

### **Brother Gerard (John) Fitz, C.S.C.**

*born: 15 December 1893*

*died: 2 October 1971*



Gerard was born in Castalia, Ohio. After graduation he taught in country grade schools. He joined Holy Cross in 1914, went to the juniorate at Watertown, the novitiate at Notre Dame, and made his first vows in 1917. He began studies at Notre Dame, earning a bachelor's degree in 1922 and later, a master's in 1938. He started a long teaching career at Cathedral in 1920 (for 8 years) and then served as principal at Evansville for 3 years. He was superior in New Orleans and then taught in Indianapolis. Gerard was a scholar of classical languages and specialized in the teaching of Latin. In 1941, he was appointed principal at South Bend Central Catholic and then taught in Taunton. From 1952 to 1958 he was superior of Columba Hall, while still managing to teach Latin I and II at St. Joseph's High. He moved to St. Edward High in Lakewood where he continued to teach the classics (and five Latin II classes each day) until he retired in 1971 (at age 78) from 51 years of teaching. In his lifetime he had only two days of illness which interrupted a perfect attendance record in the classroom. If he taught 150 students each year, he influenced more than 7500 young men in his lifetime. He counseled and tutored many needy students. His hobby was rosary-making. He took his devotion to the Blessed Mother with him wherever he was assigned.

*If you can teach the ignorant and instruct the unlearned ...  
you bring God to others. -- Romans 2:20*

*A teacher is a compass that activates the magnets of curiosity,  
knowledge, and wisdom in pupils. -- Ever Garrison*