

Legacy Project

November 30th

Brother Romanus (Joseph) Ringwelski, C.S.C.

born: 31 January 1903

died: 30 November 1977



Romanus was born in Little Falls, Minnesota, and attended schools there. He worked in offices in Minneapolis and Chicago, and earned diplomas at Gregg College and Crane Junior College. He joined Holy Cross in 1930, went to Watertown, and then the novitiate at Notre Dame. He made his first vows in 1931. He studied at Notre Dame, earning his bachelor's degree in 1935. He began his teaching career at Holy Trinity in Chicago and then moved on to teach at Indianapolis and Albany. He was assigned to South Bend in 1943 where he was librarian at Central Catholic. He excelled in that role and served a total of 30 years as librarian at Holy Trinity, Lakewood, and River Grove. He pursued further training in library science at Catholic University in Washington and Rosary College, earning a state certification in Illinois. 'Romey' (as he was popularly known in the community) used to boast that if it were not for his certification as a librarian, "this school could not grant diplomas." In 1968 he was assigned to be the head librarian at Holy Cross Junior College, and was rewarded with the title of "Librarian Emeritus" when he retired in 1973.

He worked hard and willingly for the sake of the Lord.

-- Ephesians 6:7

*I love a library; all the magnificent books, I require
books as I require air.*

-- Sholem Asch