

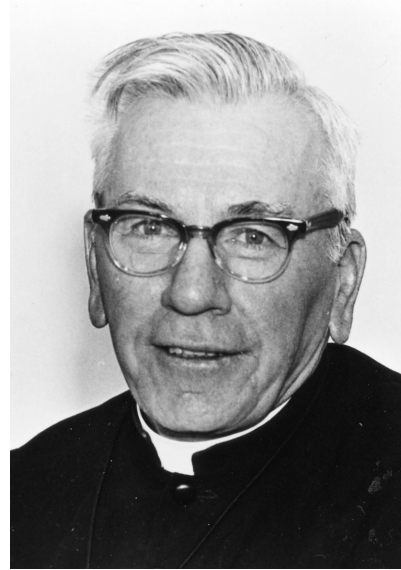
Legacy Project

March 6th

Brother Florian (Thomas) Gill, C.S.C.

born: 31 May 1902

died: 6 March 1989



Florian was born on a farm in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Both of his parents died when he was just two years of age. He was raised by relatives and went to local schools. He worked as a timekeeper for the Union Pacific Railroad and was a truck driver for a dairy company. In 1929, he joined Holy Cross, and went to the juniorate in Watertown. He attended the novitiate at Notre Dame and made first vows in 1931. His many years of experience on a farm served him well. His first assignment was managing the farm at Watertown and then he moved to St. Joseph Farm in Granger. For 17 years he was in charge of the dairy cattle. He served as assistant superior and superior for 8 years. In 1951 he became the manager of the farm at the novitiate in Rolling Prairie for 12 years. He then served on the staff of Dujarie Hall as groundskeeper. It was fitting that he lived in places devoted to the formation of young religious since his fidelity to prayer, work, good humor and congeniality were among his outstanding qualities that influenced young religious. In 1966 he was put in charge of the grounds of the new Holy Cross Brothers' Center. He spent 15 years transforming the neglected land into a landscape of well-groomed trees, shrubs, and lawns. Winter days were often spent clearing the roads of snow for college students to find parking.

*In what you are called to do, Christ left an example
for you to follow.*

1 Peter 2:21

*Setting an example is not the main means of influencing
another, it is the only means.*

-- Albert Einstein