

Legacy Project

April 3rd

Brother Jeffrey (Thomas) Michels, C.S.C.

born: 22 April 1922

died: 3 April 1991



Jeffrey was born in Detroit and attended schools there. He joined Holy Cross in 1940, going to Watertown and made his first vows in 1942. He began studies at Notre Dame and completed his bachelor's degree at Gonzaga University in Spokane. Later he earned a Master's Degree in English at Notre Dame. His teaching career began at Gibault and then he taught in Evansville, Albany, Taunton, Sherman Oaks, South Bend, Monroe, and Boysville until 1969. He also taught in Detroit-area schools (St. Martin, Grosse Pointe, St. Thomas Aquinas, and Bishop Gallagher). His talents were many; being either principal, chair of the English department, director of dramatics and glee club, advisor of newspapers and yearbooks, moderator of mothers' clubs, and even athletic director. In 1979 he served as assistant provincial for 6 years. He resumed teaching until he retired in 1986. Jeffrey was a man of class, loved to adorn rooms. He was fascinated by exquisite antique reliquaries and collected relics. One friend remarked that everything Jeffrey did was performed with aplomb, no trivial details or loss of perspective, nothing marginal or irrelevant. He suffered quietly with health problems, rarely mentioning them except to say how much his family did for him.

I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful because of his salvation.

-- Psalm 35:9

*Class is the sure-footedness that comes with self-discipline
and self-knowledge.*

-- Ann Landers