

Legacy Project

June 1st

Brother Ramon (Matthew) Purzycki, C.S.C.

born: 10 January 1920

died: 1 June 1998



Ramon was raised in Erie, PA and attended schools there. He went to Sacred Heart College at Watertown in 1939 and then to the novitiate where he made his first vows in 1941. He studied at Notre Dame for a year and worked at the University Bookstore. In 1943, he began a 33-year career working at the University Post Office, the last 8 years serving as the U.S. Postmaster. He followed in the steps of other Brother-Postmasters all the way back to the original one, Father Sorin. There was considerable paper work as a postmaster: keeping accounts, filing reports, arranging work schedules, and insuring service to 10,000 customers. He was selected to serve on the Provincial Council for a term. Ramon was described as a quiet and genial gentleman in his work. He made at least three round-trips a day from Columba Hall to the Post Office 'in all types of weather.' When he retired from the post office, he resumed working at the University Bookstore, this time for 14 years until he retired in 1990. Working as a clerk as he did for so many years, may appear to be tedious, but when done cheerfully, it became his way of faithfully witnessing to God and his community.

Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen to help them.

-- Psalm 119:173

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.

-- William James