

Rev. Francis P. Kanda, C.S.Sp.

Rev. Francis P. Kanda, C.S.Sp., a member of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit died unexpectedly, Wednesday, January 28, 2004.

Father Kanda was born August 27, 1928 in Trenton NJ. On August 22, 1948 he made his vows at Ridgefield CT and was ordained to the priesthood at Ferndale CT June 5, 1953.

He was first assigned to the missions in Tanzania, East Africa where he taught in the seminaries of the Dioceses of Moshi and Arusha and in the Holy Ghost Fathers Seminary in Tanzania until 1966. Upon his return to the States he was retained for 4 years in short-term appointments. Returning to East Africa in 1971, he taught the seminarians there until 1986 when he was assigned to parish ministry in Puerto Rico until 1991. Future assignments would include being named pastor of Holy Family Parish, Inkster MI (1992-1995), St. Mary Magdalene, Chicago IL (1995-1996) and St. Christopher Parish, Tiverton RI (1996-2003). In September 2003 after celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of priesthood, he retired at Libermann Hall the Congregation's retirement home in Bethel Park PA.

Son of the late John and Mary Barna Kanda, Father Kanda was preceded in death by his sisters Elizabeth Sirovetz and Anne Hritz and his brothers Rev. Michael Kanda, C.S.Sp., and Joseph. He is survived by his brothers, Rev. John R. Kanda, C.S.Sp., Anthony Kanda, his sister, Mary Stercula and many nieces and nephews.

There will be viewing from 2-5PM Sunday, February 1 in the Chapel at Holy Ghost Prep School, Bensalem PA, where Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated Monday at 11AM. Burial will follow in the Holy Spirit Fathers' cemetery there. A Memorial Mass will take place Tuesday, February 3 at 7PM in the Chapel at Bethel Animation Center, 6230 Brush Run Road, Bethel Park.

In memory of Father Kanda donations may be made to the Spiritans designated for retirement or for the education of future Holy Spirit Fathers, 6230 Brush Run Road, Bethel Park PA 15102.