

Fr. James Joseph BEAGAN 67 USA

\* Feb. 15, 1919 Cambridge, MA + Nov 17, 1986 Bethel Park, PA

After attending St. Michael's High School at Providence, RI, and La Salle Academy, 1934-37, he worked for two years as a foreman on the night shift of a mill. All the time, however, he kept thinking about the religious life and in 1939 he spent nine months as a novice with the Priests of the Sacred Heart. Since that community did not have a college of its own to remedy the gaps in his education, he was advised to leave.

He then applied to the Congregation and could enter Cornwells in 1940. Three years later, he pronounced his vows at Ridgefield, Aug. 15, 1943. For his senior studies he went to Ferndale, where he was ordained June 10, 1948.

Originally assigned to Puerto Rico, he ended up in Ridgefield as bursar for one year and then went to Holy Ghost, New Orleans, as an assistant. In 1952 he was transferred to St. Joseph's, Conway, and seven years later to St. Joseph's, Bay City, MI. In 1960 he became pastor of Our Lady of Mercy, Charleston, SC. Two years later, we find him as pastor of St. Mary Magdalene, Tuscaloosa, AL, and then pastor of Holy Ghost, Detroit. In 1967 he began to exercise the same function at St. Madeleine Sophie, Tiverton, RI. He held this position till 1975, and a year later received his appointment as pastor of St. Catherine's, Tarboro, NC. He built the Church there and worked there til 1984.

Ailing, he retired to Bethel, where he died of a heart disease in his sleep. Interment took place at Cornwells.

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