



**TERTIUS ORDO REGULARIS SANCTI FRANCISCI  
SECRETARIUS GENERALIS**

July 4, 2013

Prot. N° 34/2013

**Subject: Death notice of Fr. Mark J. Reifel, T.O.R.  
Province of the Immaculate Conception, USA**

We have received word that our friend and brother,



**FR. MARK J. REIFEL, T.O.R.**

Father Mark J. Reifel, 84, died Saturday, May 25, 2013 at Garvey Manor in Hollidaysburg, PA.

He was born on July 7, 1928 in Cincinnati, Ohio, the son of Sadie and Joseph Reifel. He entered the Franciscan Preparatory Seminary at Highland Hall in Hollidaysburg in 1946, and was received into the novitiate at Saint Bernardine Monastery, also in Hollidaysburg, in September, 1947.

On September 8, 1948 he professed his vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. He continued his studies leading to the Priesthood at the Seminary and then at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he completed the requirements for his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. At the same university, he completed his four years of theology and was ordained to the Priesthood at the National Shrine of The Immaculate Conception on June 4, 1955.



He was first assigned as an instructor of mathematics at the Franciscan Preparatory Seminary and Highland Hall High School from 1956 to 1962. While there, he was the director of music and the civilian chaplain for the U.S. Air Force Radar Station at Blue Knob, PA, and from 1959 to 1962 he was the Cleric Master at Saint Anthony Clericcate at the Franciscan Preparatory Seminary.

In July, 1962, Father Mark was appointed Vicar Prior and Cleric Master at Saint Thomas More House of Studies in Washington, D.C. From 1965 through 1970 he was the Pastor of the former Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in the former Barnesboro, PA and was a part-time instructor at Bishop Carroll High School in Ebensburg, PA. For a short period of time in 1971, Father Mark was the chaplain at Saint Otto Home for the Aged in Little Falls, MN, and returned to PA to be the Assistant Pastor at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Altoona. In 1972, he served as Assistant Pastor at Saint Monica Church in Chest Spring and served in the same capacity at Holy Name Church in Ebensburg, PA.

From 1974 to 1982, Father Mark was the Assistant Pastor at Saint Anthony Church in Johnstown, PA. Father was named the pastor of Our Lady of Grace Church in Romney, WV from 1982 to 1984 and in June, 1984 was the Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Stonewood, WV. Father returned to PA in 1990 when he was, again, named Pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Barnesboro, PA. In 1995 until April, 2013, he enjoyed senior priest status at Saint Anthony of Padua Church in Windber, PA.

In April, Father moved to Garvey Manor in Hollidaysburg. Father Mark was to celebrate his 65th anniversary as a Franciscan in September. Father Mark was predeceased by his parents and his sister. He is survived by his Franciscan Community and by a niece, Judith and his nephew Theodore Mark. Family and friends will be received at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Windber on Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. The Vigil for the deceased will be prayed at 7:30 His Funeral Mass will be concelebrated on Thursday, May 30th, with Rev. Frank Scornaienchi, T.O.R., Vicar Provincial as the main celebrant. Interment will be at the Franciscan Cemetery at Saint Bernardine Monastery in Hollidaysburg, PA. Arrangements are by the Santella Funeral Home, Altoona.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Please offer the suffrages for the repose of his soul according to articles 61-67 of the *General Statutes*.

Fraternally,



fra Danijel Gornik

Fr. Danijel Gornik, TOR  
Secretary General