



Rev. Mitchell J. Bednarski

January 20, 1916 - March 20, 2005

Fr. Mitchell J. Bednarski died March 20 of a cerebral hemorrhage at St. Mary's Hospital, Livonia. He was 89.

Born in 1916, in Hamtramck, one of seven children to John and Agatha Bednarski, he also had a twin brother, Casimir, who died at age 16.

He was baptized and attended St. Florian, St. Ladislaus and Catholic Central schools. He attended Sacred Heart Seminary and St. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake.

He was ordained June 3, 1944, by Cardinal Edward Mooney at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Detroit. He celebrated his first Mass June 4, 1944, at St. Florian Church in Hamtramck.

Fr. Bednarski served as assistant pastor at the Detroit parishes of St. Thomas, (1944-49); St. Andrew (1949-54); and St. Louis the King (1954-59); and St. Mel, Dearborn (1959-60).

Then-Archbishop John F. Dearden named Fr. Bednarski founding pastor of St. Ursula Parish in Ypsilanti in 1960. The site of the new parish facilities was at Foley and Harris roads which had been purchased in the 1930s by the Archdiocese of Detroit.

The first Mass was celebrated in July 1960 at Ypsilanti Township Hall, until August 1960 when they moved to a nearby school, which was bigger and closer to the parish property.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new church were held in November 1960 and completed a year later. In July 1967, a new permanent church building

was dedicated, and four years later, Washtenaw County, including St. Ursula, became part of the 10-county Diocese of Lansing.

Fr. Bednarski was named pastor of St. Mary Parish, Durand, in 1976. In 1994, St. Ursula merged with St. Alexis Parish to form Transfiguration Parish.

In 1983, Fr. Bednarski left St. Mary Parish and assisted at St. Anthony Parish, Belleville, and at St. Hugh Parish, Southgate.

Since 1993, Fr. Bednarski resided at the Senior Clergy Village in Livonia and Fort Lauderdale, Fla. In both locations he actively continued his ministry by celebrating mass at the various local parishes.

In his final years, he was a resident of Marywood Nursing Care Center, Livonia.

He is survived by two brothers, Roman and Valentine; and his sister Celia Jaszcz.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **29**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Transfiguration Church (Ypsilanti Twp.)
1301 S. Harris Rd.
Ypsilanti Twp., Mi

Service

MAR **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Transfiguration Church (Ypsilanti Twp.)
1301 S. Harris Rd.
Ypsilanti Twp., Mi

Tribute Wall



“ God has blessed Fr. Bednarski.
I was an altar boy for him in 1960 at the public school gym in Nancy
Park, Ypsilanti (before I-94 existed in that area)###imported-
begin##Dick Guzal##imported-end##

March 28, 2005 at 01:23 PM