

Br. Cyril (Joseph Paul) PUTRN 81 USA

* March 10, 1905 Vysna Sunava, CZK + Feb. 22, 1987 Pittsburgh

He came from a large Slovak Family, which migrated to the USA before World War One and settled to farm in Washington County, PA, south of Pittsburgh. There he worked on the farm as a coal miner and carpenter till he had reached the age of thirty-five.

He then applied for admission to the Congregation as a Brother, and pronounced vows for three years at Ridgefield Feb.5, 1941. Being in his mid-thirties and therefore set in his ways, it was difficult for him to adapt himself to the religious life style and, when his vows expired, he withdrew. Almost at once, he regretted this step and asked to be readmitted. He was allowed to do so as an agrege, serving at Ferndale and from 1951 in Ann Arbor, MI.

In 1958 he received permission to renew his vows and was professed again Nov. 15, 1959 at the Richmond, MI, Brothers' novitiate. He then served at Ann Arbor, MI, till 1966 and for another year at Richmond. Once again, he asked to be released from his vows, and once again he regretted his request--this time before his papers could be processed.

Transferred to Ferndale, he served there for eleven years, making himself indispensable in keeping the old place in good running order. After a final year at St. Peter Claver's, Philadelphia, he began ailing and went into active retirement to Bethel Park, PA, "repairing anything from the basement to the belfry."

As his infirmities increased, he entered the Vincentian Home in Pittsburgh, where he died of respiratory failure. Interment took place at the Sharpsburg community cemetery.

"His life had been a source of edification to many."