

Fr. Francis Xavier SCHILLO 76 USA

* April 9, 1909, Pittsburgh, +July 31, 1985 Philadelphia

A graduate of DU Prep School and College, 1923-31, he made his profession at Ridgefield July 25, 1932. He studied theology at Ferndale, where he was ordained Sept. 3, 1935.

After a few replacement assignments his first regular appointment took him to St. Mary's, Detroit for three years. Two other interim assignments followed and then in 1940 he went to Holy Ghost, Marksville, LA, where he served for four years. After one year at Holy Childhood, Pittsburgh, he became pastor of St. Peter Claver, OK. Sixteen years later, he began to minister in the same capacity at St. Mark's, New York. In 1965 he accepted the function of bursar at Cornwells and held it till 1980.

He then did some replacement ministry in the Pittsburgh area prior to being appointed to St. Peter Claver, Philadelphia in 1981. Illness forced him to resign two years later. Suffering from various ailments, he spent some time in retirement facilities and nursing homes before his death of cancer at Nazareth Hospital. Interment took place at Cornwells community cemetery.

A man of strong convictions, he made his voice heard by repeated letters to U.S. senators and other politicians in the 1970's and 1980's when bills favoring abortion over life were under consideration. At the time of his entrance into the Congregation, he had been characterized as frank but docile, serious-minded and an excellent candidate for the religious life and the priesthood. He never failed to live up to his promise.

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