

Fr. John Joseph MCHUGH 72 USA P.R.

\* Sept. 14, 1912 Philadelphia + June 23, 1985 Darby, PA.

A baseball enthusiast since his sandlot days, he earned the nickname "Smoke" because of his fast speedballs. After attending high school at North-East Catholic in his hometown, he worked for two years till 1930. Then, attracted by the example of a Spiritan student, he asked to be admitted to Cornwells. Seven years later he could pronounce his first vows at Ridgefield, Aug. 15, 1937. During his senior studies in Ferndale he was ordained June 19, 1942.

His first appointment in 1943 took him to Puerto Rico, where he worked at Arecibo and Juncos before becoming pastor in Juncos in 1951. Illness forced him to return to the mainland seven years later.

His next assignment took him to St. Christopher's, Tiverton, R.I., as an assistant for 16 years. In 1975 he could again be appointed as a pastor, this time at St. Joseph's, Bay City, MI. Again, however, illness forced him to resign from this post in 1983 and reduced him to replacement ministry at St. Peter Claver's, Philadelphia. From there he went to the retirement community at Cornwells. He died two years later in a nursing home at Darby. Interment took place at the Cornwell's community cemetery.

As a priest, he was highly regarded by his superiors as well as greatly respected and loved by the people entrusted to his care. Full of simple good humor, he was a delightful guest when he visited them. His caring concern extended of course also to his confreres, the Congregation and its works.

USA-East Newsletter, July/Aug. 1985 Archives 11B-52A