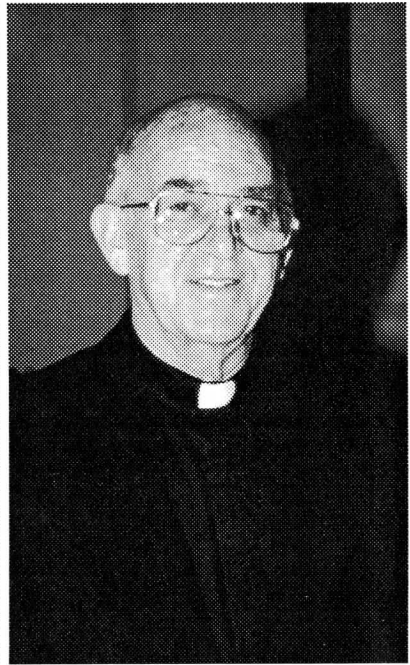
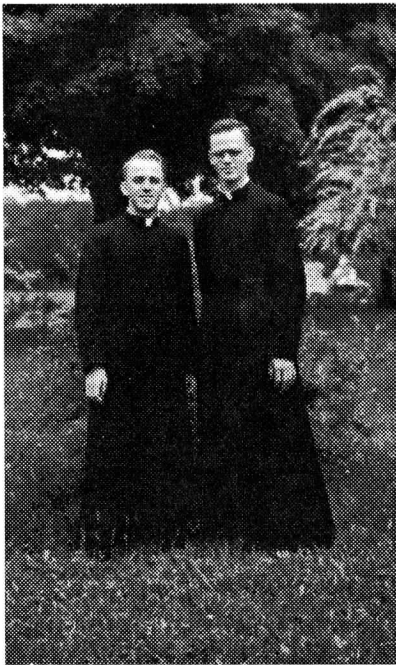


FR. TIMOTHY MOCK

*A Celebration of
50 Years in the Priesthood*



MAY 2002

Father Tim was born Bernard Mock on August 6, 1926, in the railroad town of Aberdeen, South Dakota, to Valentine (better known as Walter) and Magdalen (Wolf) Mock. He was the ninth of ten children, having an older brother (Alex), seven older sisters (Elizabeth, Mary, Genevieve, Helen, Kathryn, Agnes Mary, and Martha), then himself, and a younger brother (William). Sadly, Genevieve died of the flu at the age of six, before Father Tim was born.

His parents hailed from a German farming community, Kleinleibenthal, on an inlet of the Black Sea near Odessa, Russia. The people of the small Catholic village were very close knit, and the church was the hub of activity. His mother's family had moved to Canada while she was young, but returned to Russia as they became lonesome for family and friends they had left behind. His parents were married in Russia, and immigrated to Aberdeen, South Dakota, in 1909. His father worked as a tinsmith, doing roofing and furnace ductwork with sheet metal, as well as installing furnaces and air conditioners.

Father Tim's two oldest sisters, Elizabeth and Mary, became Benedictine Nuns. Elizabeth changed her name to Sister Leonilla, and Mary became known as Sister Clare. Knowing that it was his calling, Sister Leonilla and Sister Clare prayed for Father Tim's vocation. Their youngest brother, William, also became a priest and changed his name to Father David. (Among their relatives, including the four religious vocations in their family and first and second cousins, there are 14 Sisters and 9 priests including a Benedictine Abbot.)

Father Tim did not attend kindergarten. "I was either a genius or not ready." He received his elementary school education from the Benedictine Nuns at St. Mary's School in Aberdeen. He then attended the Marianhill Seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, beginning in the ninth grade. He studied Philosophy and Theology in an accelerated program, which entailed going to school through the summer, even during the war. Father Tim was ordained at St. Mary's Parish in Aberdeen on May 25, 1952. (With hopes of stirring a greater interest in vocations, the seminarians were ordained at their home parish rather than the cathedral.)

From 1952 until 1955, Father Tim taught Church History and Religion and studied Canon Law at the Catholic University in Washington, D.C. (We were informed by a reliable source that Father Tim received a degree in Canon Law.) He taught at Catholic Central, a coed school in Allentown, Pennsylvania, starting in 1955. In August of 1958, he became Pastor at Our Lady of Grace Church in Dearborn Heights, Michigan. (We know of at least three parishioners at St. Albert the Great who made their First Communion at Our Lady of Grace while Father Tim was pastor there.) From 1963-1967, he was Rector at St. Bernard Seminary, where he also taught English and Religion. He assisted at different parishes on weekends, such as St. Augustine Parish in Richmond and various parishes in Detroit. He helped Msgr. Weier at St. Albert the Great Church in Dearborn Heights, where he began to assist on a regular basis while Father Fauser was pastor, and where he continues to assist on weekends. He also worked for the Leaves magazine.

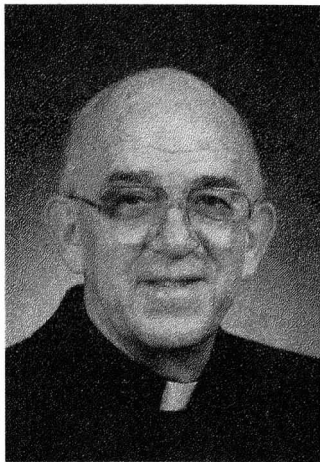
In 1967, Father Tim traveled to Africa. He also traveled to Europe, visiting the Marianhill Fathers' house in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Rome. "I saw more castles than I cared to, and I saw more churches than I cared to." Father Tim felt that they "were so big and impersonal, it was impossible to have close contact with the people." He returned in 1970 after the death of his brother, Father David. Sister Clare also died at the very young age of thirty-eight.

When asked if he had any words of wisdom on life in general that he wished to share with us, he replied, "Listen to Jesus Christ."

This year, Father Tim celebrates fifty years in the priesthood. He has spent his life listening to Jesus by caring for, helping and administering to others. Those whose lives have been touched by Father Tim have been blessed. We share in the joy of this blessed occasion, thanking Father Tim for his years of dedication to the followers of Christ.



Father Timothy Mock C.M.M.



In honor of the
Golden Anniversary
of his ordination to the Priesthood
May 25, 1952

"I bring you good news of great joy"
Luke 2:10