

Rev. Patrick Morrissy, C.S.S.R. Obituary

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Obituary

REVEREND PATRICK R. MORRISSY, C.S.S.R., age 74, died January 1, 2004, in Thailand. He was born July 10, 1929, in Detroit, Michigan, the youngest of 8 children, to Patrick and Ellen, who were immigrants from Ireland.

Education: - Graduate of Holy Redeemer Elementary School, Detroit;
- high school and 2 years of college: St. Joseph's Preparatory Seminary, Kirkwood, MO: by 1949;
- completed philosophy, theology, sacred scripture and other subjects necessary for training for the priesthood at the Redemptorist major seminary in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin: by 1957.

Occupation: Roman Catholic Priest
with the Redemptorist Congregation. He was ordained a priest in 1955.

Father Morrissy was assigned to the Redemptorist Congregation's foreign mission in Thailand in 1957. He remained there for the rest of his career, being assigned to various cities (among them, Khon Kaen, Bangkok, Nongkhai, Xang Ming, Phonsung, Ban Dung, Nonsombun, and Pattaya) and positions.

He was pastor to churches, and while doing so, over saw the opening of a Catholic school in Khon Kaen, taught English, assisted in building and opening a new community residence and chapel in Khon Kaen, and building a new church in Phonsung. He helped train minor seminarians for the priesthood at the minor seminary in Sriracha. He also preached days of recollection to communities of religious women.

In 1981, he was assigned to the apostolate for leprosy patients and their families in Khon Kaen. It was here that he received the nickname, "Fr. Daeng", which means "Father Red", due to his ruddy complexion. He had been working with leprosy patients since 1959. During his term of pastor to the leprosy ministry, 4 programs were implemented: a new nursery built for the care of children before the age of kindergarten, a live-in facility built for leprosy patients to provide temporary care for patients who experience severe reactions to leprosy medications, a facility constructed to teach vocational skills to daughters of leprosy patients, and a program was begun to care for severely handicapped children; and finally a center was built in honor of St. Gerard to care for them both on a live-in basis and an out-patient basis.

He also was guest master at the Center complex and director of the vocational training school for the disabled, at St. Nikolaus parish in Pattaya.

Survived by many nieces & nephews, and grand-nieces & nephews.

Preceded in death by parents: the late Patrick and Ellen.

Also preceded in death by siblings: the late Mary Linsell, Ita Moss, Rev. Tom Morrissy, C.S.S.R., Robert Morrissy & Jerry Morrissy

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, January 17, 2004 – 10:00 AM – at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church,, 1721 Junction (& Vernor), Detroit, with Rev. Richard Mevissen, C.S.S.R. officiating.

Interment has taken place in Thailand.

Memorial Tributes are suggested to:
The Redemptorist Fathers of Thailand

Photos

