

Obituaries



Rev. 'Val' H. Reker

Rev. Valentine "Val" H. Reker, 71, Springfield, died at 2 p.m. Monday in St. John's Regional Health Center after a long illness.

Survivors include his mother, Mercedes Reker, St. Louis; a brother, Norbert Reker, St. Louis; four sisters, Mary Hoffmann and Dorothy Middendorf, both of St. Louis, Naomi Findley, Maryland Heights, Monica Herr, Florissant; two uncles, Rev. Raymond Reis, S.J., St. Louis, and Rev. Marcel Reis, Elizabethtown, Ill.; several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Father Reker was ordained June 7, 1941,

in the Cathedral of St. Louis. He was the present associate pastor of Immaculate Conception Church and was a former associate pastor at St. Agnes Cathedral. He had served in churches in Caruthersville, Monett, Dexter, Seneca, Neosho, Verona, and Doniphan. He was past chaplain of the ecumenical center at Missouri Southern College in Joplin and is past head of the department of religion at McAuley High School in Joplin. He was past moderator for the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. He was chaplain of the Daughters of Isabella and also was the Legion of Mary Annunciation Comitium Director.

Prayer services will be at 7 p.m. today in Immaculate Conception Church.

Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in Immaculate Conception Church with the Most Rev. John J. Leibrecht, Bishop of the Springfield Cape Girardeau diocese, officiating. Services are under the direction of Herman Lohmeyer Funeral Home.