

Brother John Evangelist Weibel

January 15th is the anniversary of the death of Brother John Evangelist Weibel. Anthony Weibel was born in Hilfikon, Canton Aargau, Switzerland, on June 4, 1867. He came to the United States and to Subiaco with the "Expedition" of 1891 from the abbey of Einsiedeln led by Father Gall D'Aujourd'hui. The group disembarked at New York on November 26, 1891, and arrived at Subiaco on December 3.

There were seven "Expeditions" from this abbey in Switzerland between the years 1880 and 1893 bringing needed monks, supplies, and candidates; our community grew slowly but surely.

In this 1891 "Expedition" there were four candidates for the priesthood and eight candidates for the brotherhood. Three in each group persevered, one being brother-candidate Anthony Weibel. He professed his vows as a monk of our monastery on October 16, 1893, receiving the name John Evangelist.

Brother John Evangelist served our community for four decades, mainly as orchard-keeper.

Afflicted with asthma, Brother John Evangelist died suddenly from an attack on Saturday, January 15, 1938.

Abbot Edward was celebrant of the funeral Mass on Monday, January 17. At the time of his death, Brother John Evangelist was 70 years old and in the 44th year of his monastic profession. He is buried in our cemetery.

