

## Father Carleton Sheehan

October 9th is the anniversary of the death of Father Carleton Sheehan. Carleton Sheehan was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on September 27, 1919, and received his primary and high school education in that city. He then enrolled at Bentley College in Boston, but interrupted his studies from 1942 to 1945 in order to serve in the U. S. Army during World War II.

During his three years in the military service, he spent 14 months in the European Theater of Operations in Northern France, the Rhineland, Central Europe, and the Ardennes where he participated in the Battle of the Bulge.

He served in the 26th Infantry Division of the 3rd Army, commanded by Lieutenant General George S. Patton, Jr. Carleton Sheehan achieved the rank of Battalion Sergeant Major and was awarded several medals, decorations, and citations during World War II.

After his discharge from the army, he returned to Bentley College in Boston where he earned a degree in business administration and became a certified public accountant. He worked as an external payroll auditor, and subsequently in the 1950s, as credit manager for a national insurance company in its Southwest division located in Dallas, Texas.

Frequently traveling from his Dallas headquarters to branch offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Little Rock, Arkansas, Carleton Sheehan became acquainted with Subiaco and later decided to enter the abbey.

In January, 1957, he came to Subiaco, sharing the life of high school students less than half his age, in order to study Latin before entering the monastery as a candidate for the religious life. He professed his vows as a monk of our monastery on September 8, 1958, receiving the name Anselm.

The next four years of theological studies were spent at the Pontifical College of St. Bede in Rome, Italy, where he was ordained to the priesthood by Cardinal Luigi Traglia in the Basilica of St. John Lateran on April 7, 1962. During his years in Rome he became fluent in Italian, but never lost his strong Boston accent, a rich distinguishing mark of his speech.

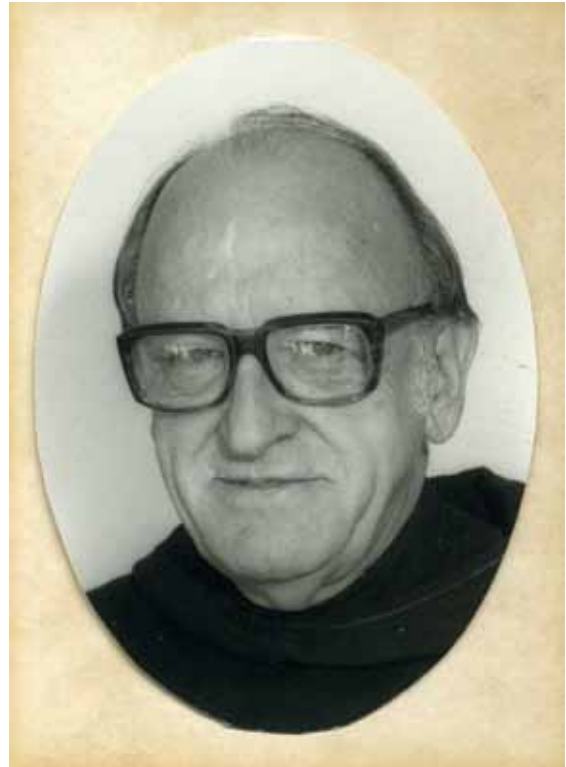
The newly ordained priest returned to Subiaco in the summer of 1962. For the next four years he served as chaplain and guidance counselor for the academy students.

After Vatican Council II, when religious were permitted to choose either to retain their name in religion or to choose their baptismal name, Father Anselm Sheehan chose to be known by his baptismal name, Carleton.

After serving one year as dean in the academy, Father Carleton became Dean of Men and remained in this position for 16 years. In addition, he taught business law and Christian doctrine. A strong and gentle monk, he left an enduring mark on the students under his care.

In 1983, Father Carleton was appointed pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Charleston, Arkansas, where he served until 1990. While there he spearheaded the removal of the old school building which was later replaced by a Community Center to serve parish needs. The church was also renovated and stained glass windows were installed.

Frail in health, Father Carleton returned to the abbey in 1990 and served as commuter pastor of St. Scholastica Parish in Shoal Creek until his last illness. During his final years at Charleston, and until the end of his life, he served as director of housing at the abbey.



Father Carleton's health continued to weaken, and he was hospitalized after suffering a heart attack. A weakened heart led to his death at 7:00 p. m., in St. Edward Mercy Medical Center, Fort Smith, Arkansas, on Wednesday, October 9, 1991.

At the time of his death, Father Carleton was 72 years old and in the 33rd year of his monastic profession, the 29th of his priesthood. He is buried in our cemetery.