

## Father Aemilian Schmitt

January 11th is the anniversary of the death of Father Aemilian Schmitt. Father Aemilian was born in Speyer am Rhein, in the federal state of Bavaria, Germany, on April 28, 1892. At age 15 he came to the United States arriving on September 23, 1907. He had originally planned to become a monk at St. Joseph's Abbey in Louisiana; however, after he had been there for three months, the monastery was destroyed by fire. He left for New York and worked there until he came to Subiaco on November 15, 1908.

Father Aemilian professed his vows as a monk of our monastery on September 29, 1910, and was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John B. Morris at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Little Rock on June 8, 1916. After his ordination, Father Aemilian served our community as a member of the faculty of the academy. During World War I he organized a student Cadet Corps.

In 1921 he was assigned as assistant pastor of St. Edward's Church, Little Rock. In 1923 Father Aemilian was appointed pastor of Holy Redeemer Church, Clarksville, Arkansas. His final pastorate was at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

For a number of years Father Aemilian was treated for dropsy and heart trouble. As a result of a recurring heart ailment, Father Aemilian died on Wednesday, January 11, 1950, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Fort Worth.

Abbot Paul was celebrant of the funeral Mass for Father Aemilian on Saturday, January 14.

At the time of his death, Father Aemilian was 57 years old and in the 39th year of his monastic profession, the 33rd of his priesthood. He is buried in our cemetery.

