

Father Frowin Schoech

February 10th is the anniversary of the death of Father Frowin Schoech. Eugene Schoech was born August 7, 1940, in Muenster, Texas. After attending Sacred Heart grade school there, he came to Subiaco Academy for his high school studies, graduating with the class of 1958. He professed his vows as a monk of our monastery on September 8, 1960, receiving the name Frowin. He was ordained to the priesthood June 4, 1966, in his home parish of Muenster, Texas, by Reverend Thomas K. Gorman, Bishop of Dallas-Fort Worth.

Following ordination, Father Frowin was on the faculty of Subiaco Academy from 1966 to 1992 and again for the school year 1998-99. During these 27 years he served in different capacities as teacher, student chaplain, guidance-counselor, moderator of the school newspaper, and band director. The "Phoenix Reflections," a small brass band he organized in 1967, was a popular school and touring attraction for the next 10 years.

In 1968, he established a snack bar and recreation center for the students called "Die Bunkerstube," which he managed for the next 20 years. He also served as director of Intramurals from 1969 to 1988.

Father Frowin spent most of his summer months either furthering his education or assisting in parish ministry. He attended the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, where he earned masters' degrees in sociology and guidance/counseling.

Father Frowin served as secretary of the Alumni Association from 1979 to 1986. During the 1970s and early '80s, he was the director of publicity for Subiaco Abbey and Academy. During the spring of 1993 he participated in the monastic renewal program at Sant' Anselmo in Rome.

From July 1993 to September 1997, Father Frowin was associate pastor of Sacred Heart parish in Muenster, Texas – his home parish. While there, he also taught in the local high schools.

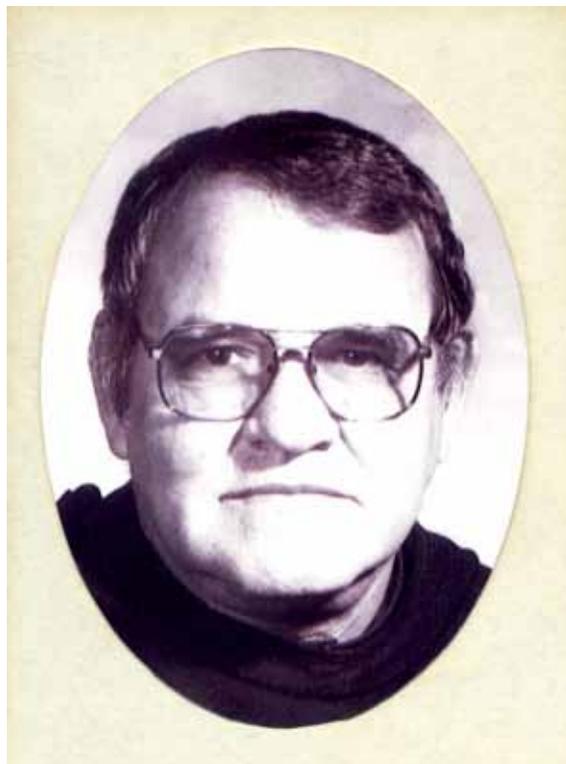
On May 15, 1998, he was appointed pastor of Assumption Church, Booneville, Arkansas, and in September of the same year he was appointed Chaplain of the Subiaco Alumni Association.

During his seminary years he became deeply interested in the spiritual and temporal welfare of the people living near the abbey. He continued this interest all his life in the civil, sociological, spiritual, and personal concerns of people.

He was an avid reader and loved to research the origin of words, maxims, etc. Racquet ball, dominoes, and especially the game of chess were his favorite pastimes.

Father Frowin's sudden death at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 1999, came as a shock to the entire community. He appeared to be in good health the day before, giving no indication of not feeling well.

Father Mark Stengel and Father Frowin had an appointment to play a game of racquetball Wednesday morning. When Father Frowin failed to appear on the racquetball court, Father Mark went to Father Frowin's room to remind him of their game. Father Frowin was lying on his bed so Father Mark didn't disturb him—thinking he was taking a rest before his morning class.



When Father Frowin failed to appear for his mid-morning class in the academy, a confrere went to check on him at 10:30 a.m. and found him dead in his room, apparently from a heart attack.

On Friday, February 12, Abbot Jerome Kodell was celebrant and homilist for the 10:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial and performed the final obsequies.

At the time of his death, Father Frowin was 58 years old and in the 38th year of his monastic profession, the 32nd of his priesthood. He is buried in our cemetery.