

### **Fr. Joseph Rayes, OFM**

Fr. Joseph Rayes, a Franciscan Friar of the province of St. John the Baptist who was raised in southeastern Michigan, died Jan. 29 at St. Ann Friary in Cincinnati. He was 76.

Fr. Rayes had been a member of the Cincinnati-based Franciscan order for nearly 58 years. He was ordained a priest in 1957.

For 12 years, he taught at Sacred Heart Cathedral High School in Gallup, N.M., and at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, Ind. In 1971, he became novice director at Oldenbert, Ind., and in Mount Airy, Ohio.

Following a year of sabbatical at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, he began work in ministry of the Word, first as director of Lumen Christi Retreat Center in Schriever, La., and then out of Chicago and Cincinnati. He served for one year as provincial communications director and was elected to the Provincial Council from 1996 to 1999.

Fr. Rayes is survived by a sister, Barbara; brother, Robert; nieces and nephews; and great-nieces and nephews.

A memorial Mass for Fr. Rayes will be celebrated at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 10, at St. Michael Church, 25225 Code Road in Southfield.