

Celebrate

the Eternal Life of...



December 18, 1997
Colombiere Jesuit Community
Clarkston, Michigan

Charles W. Hocter, SJ, 77

Br. Hocter lived his life in service to his Jesuit companions by primarily managing kitchens at Jesuit residences, novitiates, and retreat houses in the Midwest. Said fellow Jesuit and friend Fr. Michael Dorrlor, "He was always someone who looked after others. Charlie was the heart and soul of the community wherever he went."

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Br. Hocter attended Holy Family grammar school and graduated from Elder High School in 1938. He officially entered the Jesuit novitiate at Milford, Ohio, in 1939. While there he helped with cooking and caring for those who were sick until 1943. At West Baden College in West Baden Springs, Indiana, he performed the same duties for the Jesuit community from 1943–50.

Br. Hocter then served as cook and sometimes buyer for several Jesuit communities: St. Stanislaus Novitiate in Parma, Ohio (1950–52); the University of Detroit Mercy (1952–59); Milford Novitiate (1959–64); Bellarmine College in North Aurora, Illinois (1964–65); Regis Hall Retreat House in Wadsworth, Illinois (1965–69); Milford Retreat House in Milford, Ohio (1969–75); and Loyola Retreat House in Milford (1973–76).

From 1976 to 1979, Br. Hocter managed the print shop and was a buyer at St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago, Illinois. He then became minister for two Jesuit communities: first St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati (1979–86), and then Loyola University Chicago (1986–93). As minister, he managed all household affairs: cooking, cleaning, repairs, purchasing supplies, etc. In 1993, Br. Hocter moved to Colombiere Jesuit Community in Clarkston, Michigan, where each day he organized the details of the social hour for residents.



January 25, 1998
Colombiere Jesuit Community
Clarkston, Michigan

Charles J. Brannen, SJ, 76

Fr. Brannen was born in Maysville, Kentucky. He attended grammar school in Northeastern Kentucky and then graduated in 1939 from St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati, Ohio. That same year he entered the Jesuit novitiate in Milford, Ohio.

Fr. Brannen held philosophy and theology degrees from West Baden College, Indiana. He also earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Loyola University Chicago, as well as a doctorate degree in religion from Chicago Theological Seminary. He was ordained a priest in 1952 and pronounced final vows in 1957.

Fr. Brannen began his apostolic life in Jesuit high schools: first as a teacher at St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago from 1946–49, 1953–54, and 1960–61; and also as assistant principal and minister at St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati from 1955–60.

From 1961–65 he directed the Milford Retreat House in Milford, Ohio. He was pastor of Holy Family Church from 1965–67, before he embarked on his longest assignment as a theology professor at Loyola University Chicago in 1967. He continued in that role until 1997, with two interruptions: one from 1970–71 while he worked on his doctoral degree, and another as pastor at St. Ignatius Parish in Chicago from 1977 to 1980.

"Charlie was a faithful friend, courageous fighter, son of Ignatius, wonderful teacher and colleague, and an indefatigable Reds fan," said Fr. Michael Cooper, SJ. "He could have stopped teaching in 1986, but he courageously stayed in the classroom and taught a full load, because he loved the students and he loved to teach."

