



Rev. Thomas E. O'Keefe
Inducted 2003

Devoted Priest, dedicated teacher and loyal friend are all words to describe Father Thomas O'Keefe. Father O'Keefe, who presently resides in the Priest Residence on the 3rd floor of Archbishop Stepinac High School, knows the halls of Stepinac well. From 1949 to 1970 he spent 21 years as part of the Stepinac community. In addition to teaching Science and Theology and chairing the Theology Department, Father O'Keefe also found the time to start a Track and Cross Country Team and to be the Moderator of Athletics from 1960-1970.

Ordained a priest by Cardinal Spellman, on April 17th 1948, Father O'Keefe began his ministry at St. James Parish on the Lower East Side of New York City where he worked from 1948-1949. After his many years at Stepinac, he was assigned to St. Eugene's Parish in Yonkers, New York, where he worked for 20 years prior to his retirement. During this time he diligently ministered to the St. Eugene's community in his characteristic gentle, caring and humble manner. Even after retirement, Father O'Keefe continues to minister as a weekend assistant at The Magdalene Parish in Pocantico Hills and at Good Counsel Elementary School in White Plains, New York.

This evening, as the members of the Stepinac family celebrate Father O'Keefe's induction into our Hall of Fame, we honor him, not only for his invaluable service to Stepinac, but also for his many years as a Christian role model who is so deeply revered and admired by so many.