

I N M E M O R I A M



**Brother Athanasius John
Gersitz, F.S.C.**
1913 - 2001
68 Years as a De La Salle
Christian Brother

Brother John Gersitz entered the Brothers formation program in 1932 and professed his perpetual vows in 1938.

He earned a B.A. in history from Manhattan College in 1940 and a M.L.S. from the State University of New York at Albany in 1964.

From his earliest assignment at the New York Catholic Protectory in 1935, Brother John always responded in obedience to the numerous calls of the superiors for his service.

Brother John led a very active life. A detail-oriented person, he gave himself wholeheartedly to every project. His absolute sincerity was evident to students and colleagues alike. Brother John was a tireless walker; his love of books turned him into an avid reader in later life. While at De La Salle Hall, he would often proclaim that "This is paradise!" as he took advantage of this opportunity to literally devour an armful of books each month!



**Brother Albinus Gabriel
Dougherty, F.S.C.**
1916 - 2001
68 Years as a De La Salle
Christian Brother

As a young man, Brother Gabriel Dougherty received the habit of the De La Salle Christian Brothers at St. Joseph's in Barrytown, New York, in 1932.

He received a B.A. from Manhattan College in 1938 and an M.A. from New York University in 1949.

Brother Gabriel taught at St. Columba's and at St.

Bernard's Elementary Schools in New York City from 1935 until 1946; he served as Principal at St. Bernard's School in 1946 and became Sub-Director of the Junior Novitiate in 1952. He served as Director of Scholastics at Hillside Hall, Troy, New York, from 1955 to 1958.

He was especially well known by many Brothers of the New York Province, as he was the Director of Novices at St. Joseph's Novitiate, Barrytown, New York, from 1958 to 1969.

A former Brother, Jim Casey, writes of Brother Gabriel's effect upon him, "He was the focal point for much in my life. His genuineness encompassed the wisdom of insecurity. He was willing to risk swimming in the river of ideas rather than merely clinging to the rocks of tradition. I am grateful for the fermentation process that has occurred in my life because of him. He did not give up on an 18-year-old but trusted in the long-range process."

In his later years, Brother Gabriel ministered as a social worker during the 1970's at Lincoln Hall, Lincolndale, New York, and at La Salle School, Albany, New York, during the 1980's. Albany Medical Center's Pastoral Care Department was the site of Brother Gabriel's volunteer work in the 1990's.



**Brother Azarias Peter
Walsh, F.S.C.**
1918 - 2001
65 Years as a De La Salle
Christian Brother

Brother Azarias Peter Walsh received the habit of the De La Salle Christian Brothers in 1935 at Barrytown, New York. He made his final profession in 1943.

Brother was awarded a B.A. from The Catholic University in Washington, D.C. in 1939 and a M.A. from Manhattan College in 1952.

For more than 40 years, Brother Peter taught English, Business, General Science, and Ecology at schools in the New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and New York areas. He was an avid volunteer and, from 1981 until 2000, dedicated himself to the care of the retired Brothers at the Christian Brothers Center in Narragansett, Rhode Island. Brother Peter died at De La Salle Hall in Lincroft, New Jersey, on June 21, 2001.

A former student and friend of Brother Peter's, John Stapleton, writes of him:

"Brother Peter changed a troublemaker into a troubleshooter, and because we can never pay him back, we hope to pay forward, not by the presumption of filling his shoes, but by following in the footsteps of the Christ which Brother so obviously followed. I can only pray that many are called to become Brothers and continue the vocation of teaching. They say that imitation is the best form of praise; I hope that we, his former students, can imitate the honesty and integrity, coupled with gentlemanly kindness and dry humor that was Brother Peter, a man who touched our hearts as well as our minds."

Brother Peter maintained very close contact with his relatives, a number of whom visited him often in his final illness.