BROTHER LAWRENCE A. KILLELEA



Lawrence A. Killelea was born on November 2nd, 1925 in the New York Nursery and Child's Hospital located at 161 West 61st Street in New York City. (If that address sounds familiar, it's because the building was later purchased in 1938 by the Congregation of the Christian Brothers of Ireland as the new location for Power Memorial Academy.) The youngest child of Delia Quirk and Patrick Killelea, from County Roscommon, Ireland, he was baptized in the Church of St.Malachy's on November 22nd, 1925.

He had a sister Catherine and two brothers, Edward and Thomas. Family life was very happy and, growing up, he served as an altar boy and Boy Scout leader. He graduated from St. John Chrysostom Grammar School in 1940 and entered Power Memorial Academy where he kept busy with studies and after school activities.

After graduation from Power in 1943, his entrance to the religious life was a smooth transition from student to teacher. His first assignment as a Religious Brother was teaching at St. Cecilia's Grammar School in September, 1945. He had assignments at Iona Grammar School, Cardinal Hayes High School, and eventually, Power Memorial Academy from 1950 through 1951. Various assignments followed.

He returned to Power as the Principal from 1958 to 1964. Other assignments as Principal were at Rice High School from 1979 to 1985 and at Bergen Catholic from 1986 to 1992. During his Sabbatical Year of 1985-1986, he had the opportunity to study and travel in Italy, France, Portugal, Spain, The Netherlands, Germany and Luxemburg. He was Province Councilor from 2002 to 2003 and Assistant to the Province Leader and Assistant to the Christian Brother Institute Treasurer beginning in 2003. He retired in July 2011. Br. Killelea was also a founding member of the Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association.

The spirit of Br. Lawrence Killelea is best summed up in his own words:

"TO THOSE WHO READ THIS BIOGRAPHY, BE IT KNOWN THAT I HAVE HAD A WONDERFUL LIFE FROM BIRTH TO MY EVENTUAL PASSAGE TO ETERNAL LIFE."