

## Very Reverence Paul Thomas Hoban 1917 – 2009

(August 28, 2009; Darien, IL) The Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary, Order of Carmelites, mourns the death of the Very Reverend Paul Hoban, O.Carm., who died at the age of 92 on August 27, 2009, in Englewood Hospital, Englewood, New Jersey.

Visitation for Father Hoban will be held Tuesday, September 1, 2009, from 4:00 PM to 7:30 PM with a wake service following visitation at Saint Therese Church, 120 Monroe Avenue, Cresskill, New Jersey. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place Wednesday, September 2nd at 11:00 AM at Saint Therese. Burial will immediately follow at Mount Carmel Cemetery, Tenafly.

Father Hoban was born to (the late) Thomas Joseph Hoban and (the late) Mary Agnes (Laffey) Hoban on July 3, 1917, in Chicago, Illinois. His given name at baptism was Thomas. He was also preceded in death by his three sisters, Mary Frances (Hoban) Boler, Sister Mary Carmelita, and Cecelia (Hoban) Flaven.

Thomas Hoban attended Visitation Grade School in Chicago, Illinois. He then attended Mount Carmel Preparatory Seminary in Niagara Falls, Ontario. After graduating in 1935 he continued on at Mount Carmel College. On September 6, 1936, Thomas professed simple vows to the Carmelites in the Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary, taking the religious name "Paul." After graduation at Mount Carmel in 1939 Hoban went to Washington, DC, where he studied theology at Catholic University of America. On May 30, 1940, Hoban made his solemn profession with the Carmelites at Whitefriars Hall in Washington, DC, and in less than two weeks was ordained deacon. On June 10, 1941, he was ordained a priest by Bishop John McNamara at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in the capital. Father Paul celebrated his first Solemn Mass at St. Dorothy's Church in Chicago on June 15th.

Father Paul began his ministry serving as associate pastor at Saint Mary's Parish in Joliet, Illinois. In 1943 Father Paul moved to Mount Carmel High School in Chicago and served as English teacher there for the next three years. During this time Father Paul became chaplain of the Father Perez Council Knights of Columbus. He was known for his sterling talks that he gave to the council members. In 1946, Father Paul became director of the Little Flower Society. With the Society, he established himself for his public relations and fund-raising efforts. During this time he was the author of two of his three books; *St. Therese Model for Happiness (1951)*; *Heaven is Certainly Yours (1954)*. He later authored, *Rule of Carmel* in 1984. He was elected a member of the Provincial Council in 1960. During this time he also served as National Director of the Society of the Little Flower. He held that position until 1966 when he was appointed Provincial Treasurer. That same year Father Paul was honored for his silver jubilee as a priest celebrating Mass at Old St. Mary's Church in Chicago on Sunday, June 5, 1966.

During his time as Treasurer Father Paul attended Saint Xavier College where in 1971 received his MA in Theology. He also did graduate work in American History at DePaul University, graduate studies in Religious Education from Mundelein College, attended the Adler Institute of Psychotherapy, and received his Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at Chicago State Mental Hospital. Earlier in his career, he attended classes at the State of Illinois Public Health Department where he received certification as a food manager and was certified as an Emergency Medical Technician. Father Paul held the position of Treasurer for the province for six years until being elected Provincial. While Treasurer he became founder and director of Highland Community Bank in Chicago, which was at the time the 24th black bank in the nation with deposits of over \$22 million. Father Hoban was elected Prior Provincial for two consecutive three-year terms. Leaving the office and provincial administration in 1978, Father Paul became the director and founder of Carmelite Carefree Village, a retirement community in Darien, Illinois. He held that position for six years. In 1984 Father Paul left Illinois, moving to New Jersey to become Director of Carmel Retreat in Mahwah. After six years there Father Paul moved to San Bernardino, California, where he served as chaplain at the Medical Center there. Moving to New Jersey in 1992, Father Paul served at Saint Mary's in Closter and then Saint Therese in Cresskill.

In 1995, Father Paul Hoban retired to Cresskill, New Jersey. He later moved to a nursing care facility in Norwood, where he remained until his death.

May he rest in peace.

For further information on the Reverend Paul Thomas Hoban, O.Carm., or the Order of Carmelites contact the Carmelite Communications Center at (630) 971-0724 or visit the Carmelite website at [www.carmelnet.org](http://www.carmelnet.org).