

The Principals of Power Memorial Academy

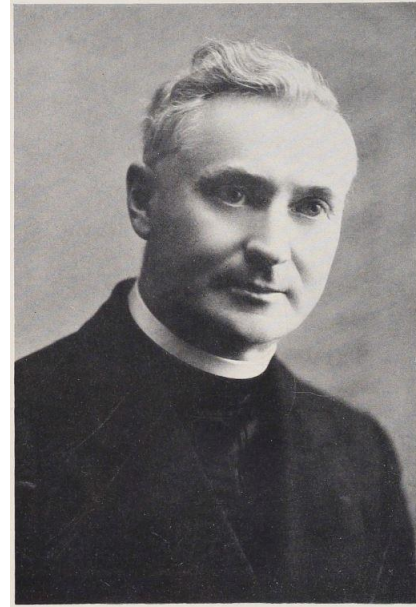
Br. Eugene F. Ryall

1932-1937

Born in County Cork, Ireland in 1881, Brother Ryall entered the Christian Brothers in 1897. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Mary's College in Halifax, Nova Scotia and earned his Master's degree from Fordham University. Brother Ryall was one of the original Christian Brothers to come to the United States, arriving in 1907. In his first U.S. assignment, Brother Ryall served on the faculty of the All-Saints parochial school for 24 years, including seven years as Principal.

In 1931 Brother Ryall founded Power Memorial Academy and guided its destinies during its first six years of existence. In 1938 Brother founded Rice High School, serving there until 1953. In 1947 he celebrated his Golden Jubilee. From 1923 to 1945 he was consultor to the Provincial for his congregation. From 1940 to 1952 he was a trustee of Iona College, New Rochelle.

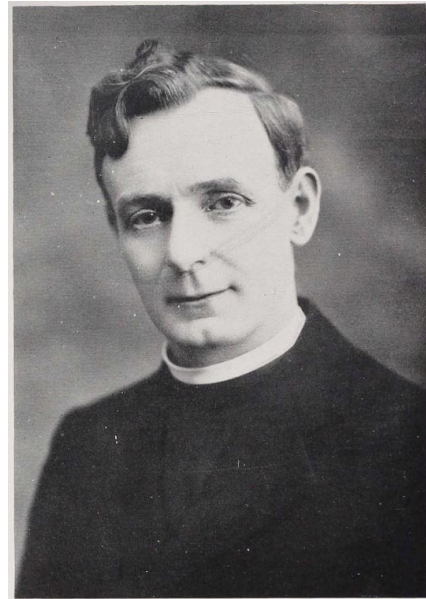
As one of the pioneers of the Congregation of Christian Brothers, tuition assistance grants bearing his name are funded annually by the orders Eastern American Province.



Br. George F. Lawless

1938-1940

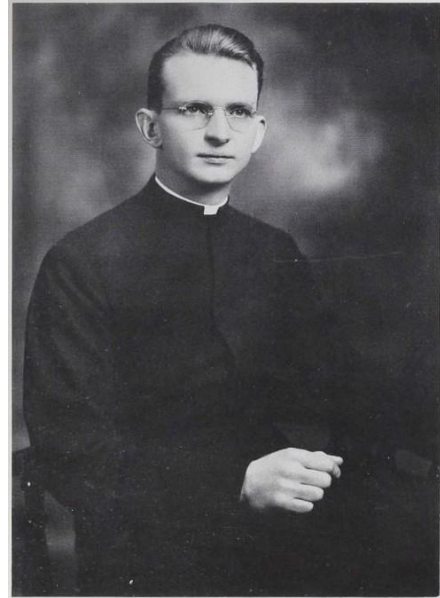
Became the 1st Principal at the grand and commodious Power Memorial Academy school building located at Sixty-First Street and Amsterdam Avenue in Manhattan.



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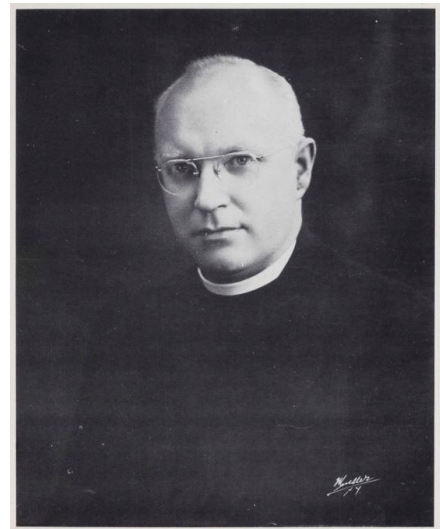
Br. James H. Vaughan
1941-1946

Brother Vaughan capably guided the school for six years. He was an energetic organizer, and a clear-thinking protagonist of sound educational principles. He insisted that after Faith and its practices, emphasis should be placed on solid scholastic attainment. The Gold Star Gymnasium campaign was initiated during his tenure. Brother Vaughan's assignments after his time at Power Memorial Academy included serving as Principal at Iona Prep in New Rochelle, Principal of Leo High School in Chicago, IL, the Dean at Iona College, and a consultant to the Provincial.



Br. William A. Hennessey
1947-1952

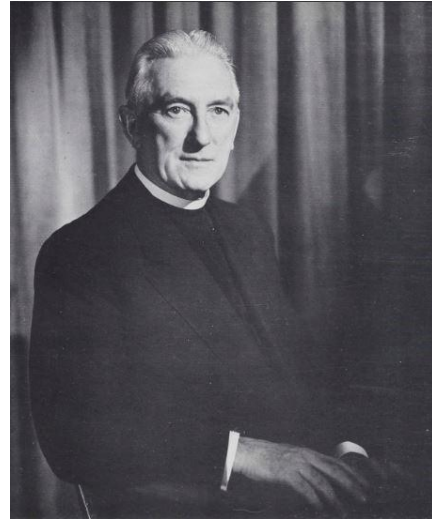
From his first year, Br. Hennessey adopted a policy of centralization. In 1947 he authorized the purchase of an intraschool public address system, bought incidentally with funds gathered by the Mothers' Club. During his term the school was redecorated, including the design of the harmonious cream and brown panel effect on the sixth, our chapel, and floor to make the corridors leading to The Oratorio of the Blessed Sacrament as beautiful as its redesigned interior. The Office was moved and enlarged. Private offices were provided for the Principal and Vice-Principal. A special room for the "Gold Star Gym Fund Drive" was created, The Father's Club was initiated, and the Alumni Society became larger.



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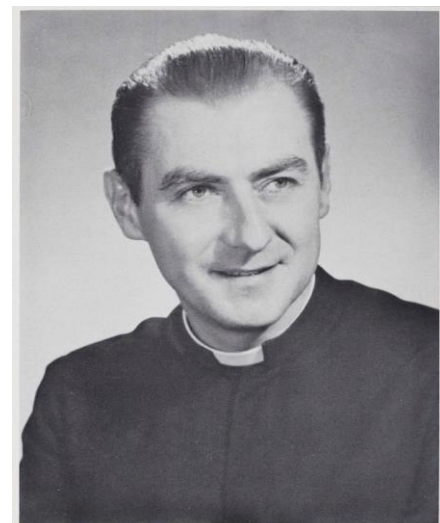
Br. Alphonsus L. Pakenham 1953-1958

The founder of Cardinal Newman College in Buenos Aires, Br. Pakenham travelled extensively throughout Spain, England, and North Africa. He taught at Line Wall College in Gibraltar for 14 years, All Hallows HS in the Bronx, and was a professor of Modern Languages at St. Mary's College in Nova Scotia. Other assignments were as Headmaster and Superior at Iona Prep for six years beginning in 1934, Vice-Principal at Bishop Leo in Chicago and director of the Evening Division of Iona College from 1943 to 1948. His last assignment before coming to Power Memorial was as Vice-President of Iona College. Br. Pakenham earned a BA from St. Mary's College, an MA in Ancient Classics from Loyola University, and an MA and PhD for Romance Languages from Fordham University. While at Power he established education standards, and the Mother's and Father's Clubs developed into smooth functioning, well-attended, active organizations. The Father and Sons Dinner, a delightful social get-together held annually, is attributed to his foresight and vision.



Br. Lawrence A. Killelea 1959-1964

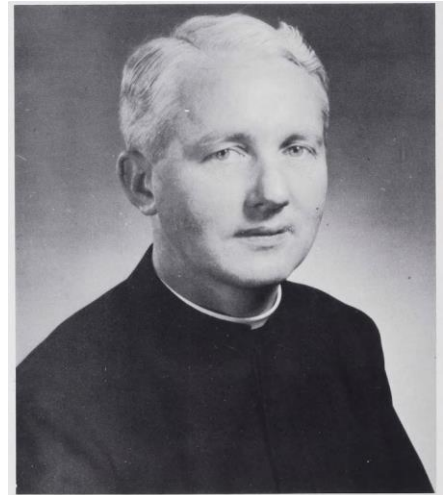
Lawrence A. Killelea was born on November 2, 1925 in the New York Nursery and Child's Hospital located at 161 West 61st Street in New York City. As a youth, he served as an altar boy and Boy Scout leader. He graduated from St. John Chrysostom Grammar School in 1940 and entered Power Memorial Academy. Brother graduated from Power in 1943. His first teaching assignment was at St. Cecilia's Grammar School in September 1945. He had assignments at Iona Grammar School, Cardinal Hayes High School, and Power Memorial Academy from 1950 through 1951. He returned to Power as Principal from 1958 to 1964. Other assignments as Principal were at Rice High School and Bergen Catholic. During his Sabbatical Year, he studied and traveled 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 to the Christian Brother Institute Treasurer beginning in 2003. He retired in July 2011. Br. Killelea was a founding member of the Power Memorial Academy Alumni Association



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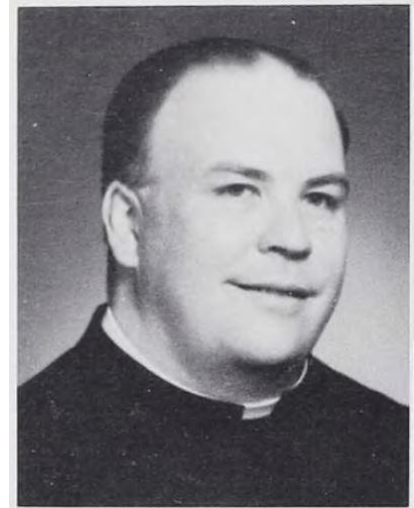
Br. Robert C. McMullen
1965-1967

Br. McMullen was a member of the Irish Christian Brothers for 25 years. He received Master's Degrees from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and Montclair State University. After leaving the Christian Brothers order he married and was a professor of Religious Studies at Caldwell College for 25 years. He was a permanent Deacon for the Patterson Diocese and served at the St. Gerard Roman Catholic Church.



Br. Francis K. O'Connor
1968

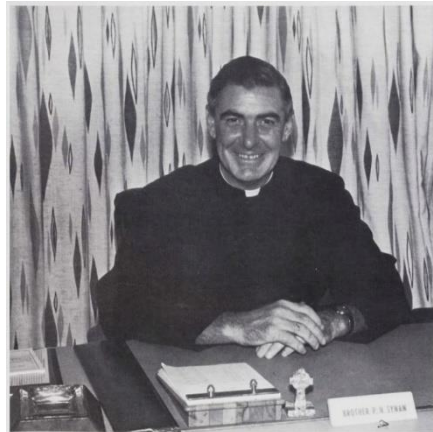
Like many of the Irish Christian Brothers, Brother O'Connor had teaching stints at Rice High School in Manhattan and Iona Prep in New Rochelle. Brother earned a BA from Iona College, an MA from St. John's University, and an MS from Fordham University.



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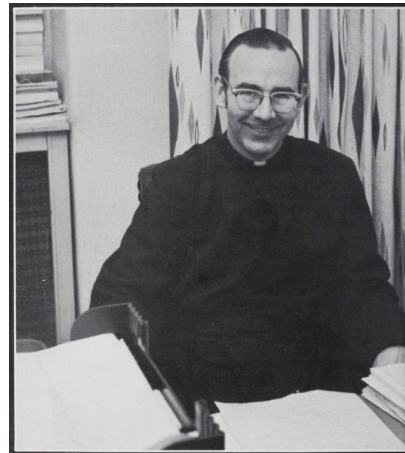
Br. Patrick N. Synan
1969-1970

Before arriving at Power, Brother Synan was Assistant Dean of Students at Iona College and Principal at Rice High School. Brother taught at Sacred Heart, Holy Family, St. Bonaventure's, St. Joseph's and Monsignor Farrell. He also taught at Irish Christian Brothers schools in West Park, NY and Newfoundland, Canada. Brother Synan attended Fordham University where he earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Science Degrees.



Br. William R. Murphy
1971

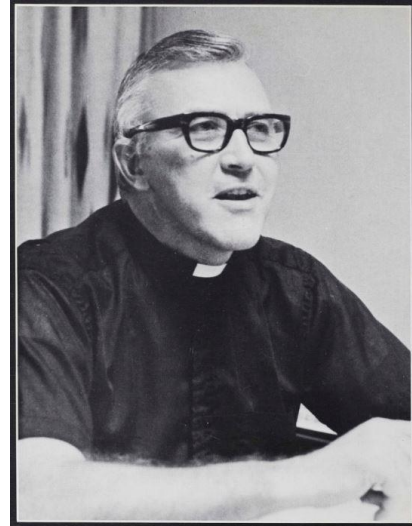
In his last assignment before Power Memorial, Brother Murphy spent six years in the Archdiocese of Chicago at St. Laurence High School in Burbank IL, including two years as Principal. There he taught Latin, Religion and English. After school he coached the St. Laurence Debate Team, Frosh and Soph baseball teams, moderated their Forensics Group and served as the Vocation Director. Brother earned his MA and MS Degrees from Fordham University. He left the Christian Brothers order after the 1970-1971 school year.



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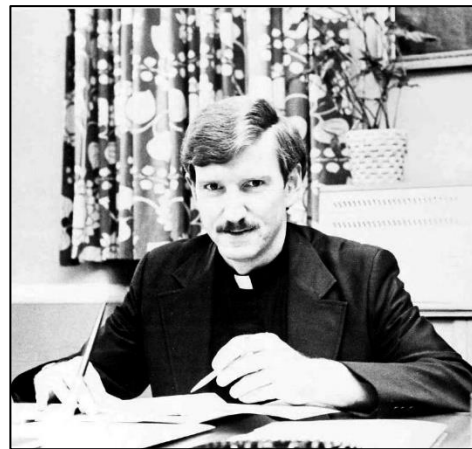
Br. Alfred X. Keane
1972-1977

Known as Brother Alfred at Bergen Catholic High School, he is a member of their Hall of Fame, and an annual merit award is named in his honor. Br. Alfred X. Keane arrived at Bergen Catholic in 1962 becoming the school's second principal. During his tenure Bergen Catholic continued to gain the athletic and academic tradition it enjoys today. He graduated from Power Memorial/St. Joseph's Juniorate in 1944. He continued his education at Immaculate Heart and St. John's University where he received his BA and MA in Latin. Brother started his teaching career at Iona Prep in New Rochelle. Br. Keane enjoyed many assignments throughout North and South America.



Br. Paul F. Daigneault
1978

As a youth, Brother Daigneault attended Catholic Memorial High School in Boston. He developed an extensive interest in extracurricular activities. In addition to his love for athletics he acquired an intense appreciation for many different languages. He attended Iona College earning a BA in classical languages, an MA in American Studies from Fairfield University, and another MA from Fordham University at Lincoln Center in School Administration and Supervision. From 1972 to 1977 Brother served as Vice-Principal and English Department chair at Essex Catholic High School. His next move was to Power Memorial Academy for the 1977-1978 school year. After his brief stay at Power, he became Vice-President of the Colonial Mint in Manhattan. Longing for his love of education, he returned to the job he did so well – school administration. In 1980 he became Principal at Saint Cecilia High School in Kearney, NJ. In 1982 he became Principal at Mt. St. Michael's Academy in the Bronx, serving as Principal there for five years.

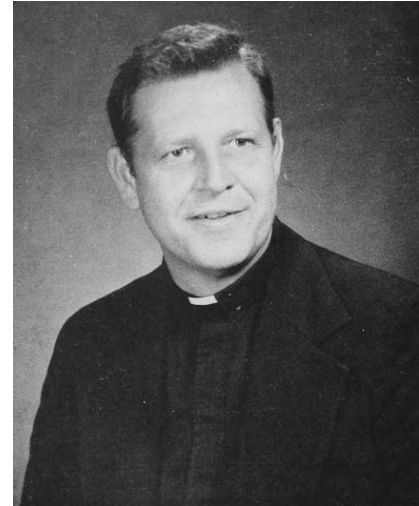


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Br. J. Michael Binkley

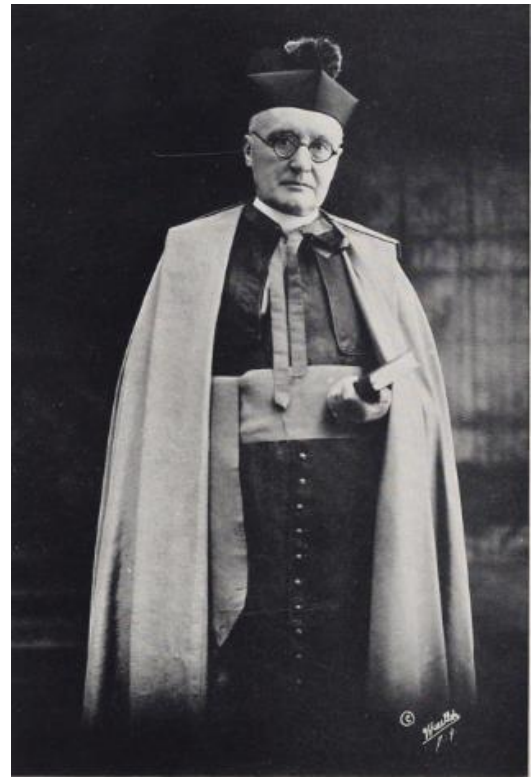
1979-1984

Brother Binkley was born on May 16, 1937, in Norfolk, VA. He attended Norfolk Catholic High School and entered Iona College where he received a BA Degree in English, an MA from Seton Hall University, and an MS in Education from Fordham University. Brother Binkley entered the Congregation of Christian Brothers on July 2, 1956 and professed his final vows on June 27, 1963. Brother's ministry took him to several schools including All Hallows Institute, Essex Catholic High School, Newark, Power Memorial Academy, Catholic Memorial High School, Boston, Bishop Kearney High School, Rochester, and Bishop Hendricken High School, Rhode Island. Brother served as Principal of Power Memorial from 1978-1984 and was also the community leader at Bishop Hendricken.

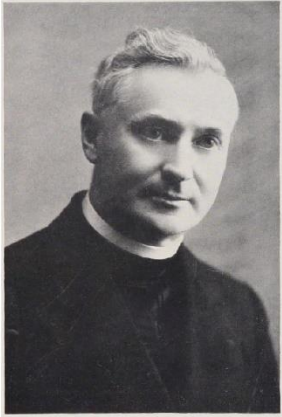


Monsignor James W. Power

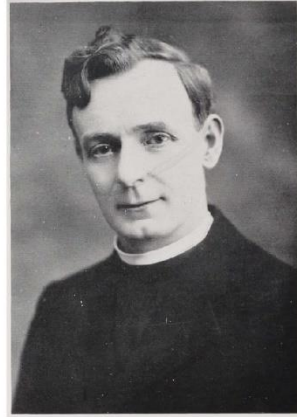
The students of Power Memorial Academy will ever cherish the memory of the founder of the All-Saints Parish, that noble priest, Right Reverend Monsignor James W. Power, through whose efforts the Irish Christian Brothers were, in 1906, introduced into the United States and whose memory is perpetuated in the name of the school. James W. Power was born on December 21, 1849 in Newtown, County Waterford, Ireland. As a young man he attended Mount Melleray College. He immigrated to New York in 1869, and was ordained December 21, 1872 from St. Joseph's Seminary in Troy, NY. His first assignment was to the Church of the Annunciation and then the Church of the Holy Cross, both in Manhattan. In October of 1879, while serving at St. Teresa's on Rutgers Street, he was asked to form a new parish, All Saints, in East Harlem. He would remain there until his death in 1926. After thirty years, Power had built his parish to almost ten thousand people. In addition to the church, the parish had a rectory and schools—primary, grammar, high and commercial schools, day nursery and settlement house, all of which were fully paid for and free from any encumbrances. Msgr. Power was described as "...a retiring man, brisk of manner, direct in address, but with a soul that was filled with gentleness and kindness and good-will to all".



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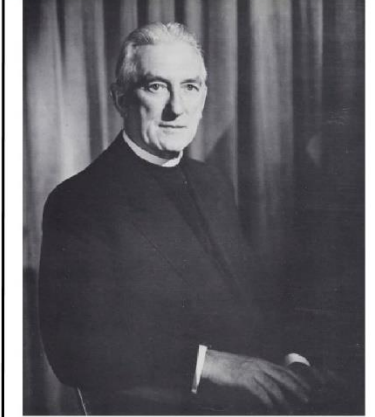
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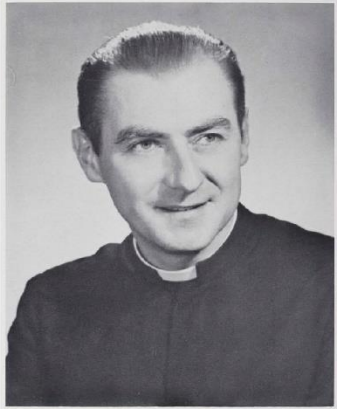
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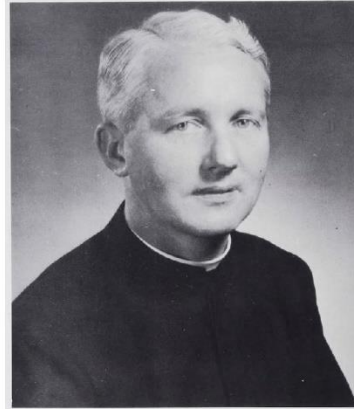
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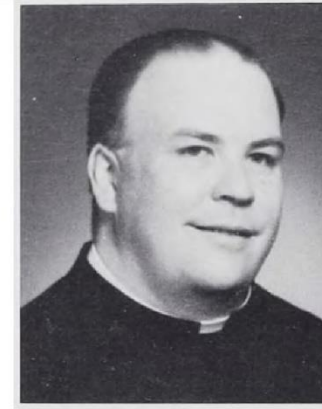
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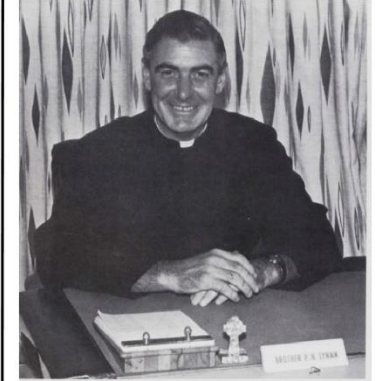
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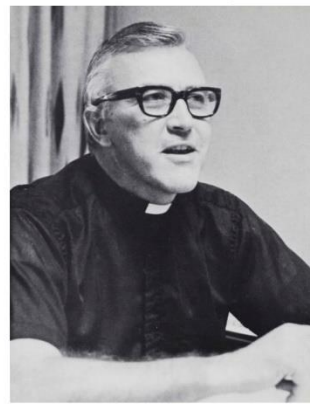
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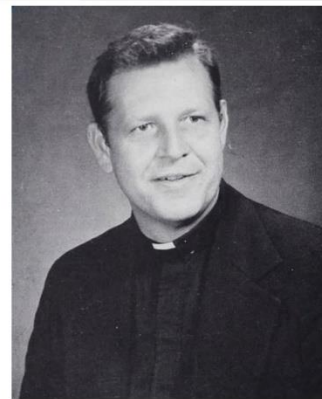
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Msgr. James W. Power
School namesake who in 1906 introduced the
Irish Christian Brothers in the United States.