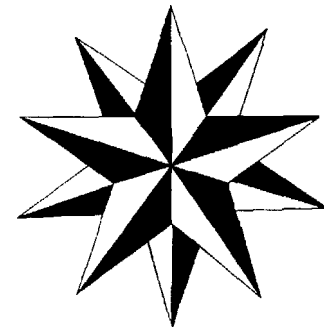


**A SHORT ACCOUNT**

**OF THE LIFE**

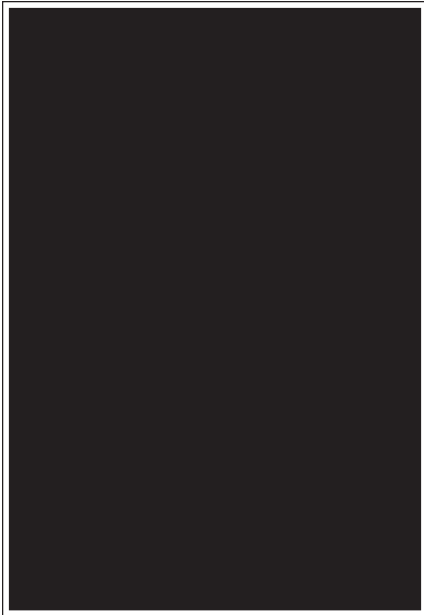
**OF**

**Brother Patrick Quin, F.S.C.  
(James Francis)  
1921 - 2000**



**SIGNUM FIDEI**

## TOUR OF DUTY



- 1940 - De La Salle Juniorate (Lafayette, Louisiana)
- 1942 - Scholasticate Studies (Las Vegas, New Mexico)
- 1944 - De La Salle Juniorate (Lafayette, Louisiana)
- 1945 - St. Peter's College (New Iberia, Louisiana)
- 1946 - Mullen High School (Denver, Colorida)
- 1947 - De La Salle Novititate (Lafayette, Louisiana)
- 1950 - College of Santa Fe (Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 1951 - Studies (New Orleans, Louisiana)
- 1952 - College of Santa Fe (Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 1953 - St. Michael's High School (Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 1954 - College of Santa Fe (Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 1956 - Scholasticate (Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 1959 - Second Novitiate (Rome, Italy)
- 1960 - College of Santa Fe (Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 1962 - Scholastice (Feb.) (Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 1966 - College of Santa Fe (Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 1986 - CSF Community/retired (Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 2000 - Transferred to SMHS Community (Dec.)  
(Santa Fe, New Mexico)
- 2000 - Died on December 5, 2000 (Santa Fe, New Mexico)

## **Brother Bruno Patrick Quin 1921-2000**

This is the story of a man who walked humbly before **God** for the seventy-nine years of his life and among the members of his religious family for sixty-two years. He was one of those humble souls who recognized the fact that he had received everything from **God** (1 Co 4:7). **Brother Patrick** was one of those humble ones that Jesus declared blessed (Mt 5:4). As a disciple of **Jesus**, he accepted the **Lord's** invitation to follow Him in loving service to others (Lk 22:26f) so that **God** would be glorified in all of them (1 P 4:10f). On the morning of December 5, 2000, he died peacefully in his room at St. Michael's Christian Brothers Community in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**James Francis Quin** was born on June 5, 1921, in New Orleans, LA, the son of **Francis Alphonse Quin** and the former **Mary Finnegan**, both deceased. As a young child, his family moved to Galveston, TX, where he received his primary education at St. Mary's Cathedral Grammar School and high school with the Christian Brothers at Kirwin High School. Upon completion of high school, **Brother James Quin** entered the Novitiate of the De La Salle Christian Brothers in Lafayette, LA. On August 14, 1938, he received the religious habit and was given the name **Brother Bruno Patrick**, which was the name of his senior religion teacher who had died fifteen days earlier in Galveston, TX. On August 19, 1939, **Brother Patrick** made first vows and on August 13, 1946, he became a fully professed De La Salle Christian Brother. His collegiate years were spent at Sacred Heart Training College in Las Vegas, NM. He received his Bachelor of Arts in History in 1944, and received his Masters of Science in Physics from Tulane University in New Orleans in 1953. **Brother Patrick's** first teaching assignment was at De La Salle Normal School (Juniorate) in Lafayette, LA, in 1940. His teaching ministry covered a pe-

riod of 46 years in which twenty seven years were spent as a professor at the College of Santa Fe.

**Brother Nicholas Grahmann** gives the following remembrance of **Brother Patrick** as a teacher in the Juniorate:

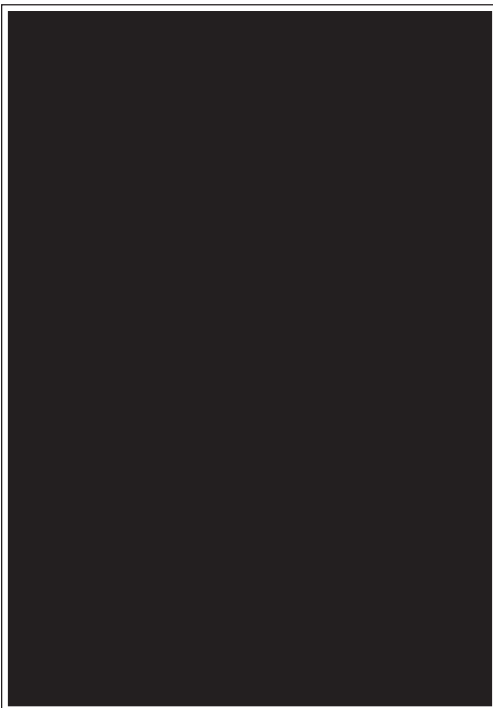
**“Brother Patrick taught me Algebra during his first year of teaching, 1940-1941, when I was a Freshman in the Juniorate at Magnolia. He was only 19 then. I remember that he was able to answer every question that I had and that he was patient to a fault with people who were a bit slow in learning. I also remember that he taught violin to us and that I was disappointed when the Brother Visitor canceled the class during his canonical visit. Brother Patrick accepted this decision in his usual humble manner.”**

**Brother Gregory Wright**, who also had **Brother Patrick** as a teacher in the Juniorate, provides the following memories:

**“One reason why I will always remember Brother Bruno Patrick, as he was called, is because he was the first Brother who taught me, on 11 June 1941, after I entered the Juniorate on the day before. Also, he was my teacher during my freshman and senior years as a Junior Novice. As I reflect on the life on Brother Patrick, I think he really personified one of the ideals set by the Founder. As noted in a number of histories of education, one of the goals of St. John Baptist De La Salle was to establish a corps of professional Christian educators, something which he achieved prior to his death in 1719. I think Brother Patrick was an outstand-**

ing example of what the Founder wanted each of his disciples to be. Through his own efforts, as well as by making use of the somewhat limited opportunities he was given, Brother Patrick became very well informed about the subjects he was called on to teach. He knew his material and made serious efforts to keep us with the advances in his field. He was the type of perpetual student the Founder wanted a Brother to be.”

No one can deny that **Brother Patrick** was a person of great intelligence. While working on his master’s degree, he discovered, through research, a radioactive emission which was named after him. It is called the “**Patrick Ray**.” **Brother Brian Dybowski** gives the following comments concerning that discovery and other aspects of **Brother Patrick’s** life:



*Brother Patrick as a student at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, where he discovered the “Patrick Ray,” in 1951.*

“His work was deliberate. Some would say slow. A bout with rheumatic fever did that to his biological clock. But he was exceptionally accurate. In fact, his accuracy was proverbial. Once he soldered 300

electrical components together, turned the device on and they all worked perfectly.

This accuracy enabled him to discover a radioactive emission that many other physicists had missed. He was often aware of many things that the rest of us missed. But he did not use his superior knowledge to criticize us. Instead, he was exceptionally kind and cheerful, enduring mistakes of students and colleagues alike. This accurate care made him a great teacher. Many students came here (College of Santa Fe) unprepared, but they learned the inner workings of science from him, and went on to fine careers in medicine, physics, math, biology or computer.

His accurate care expressed his love of Christ that he shared with everyone he met. In Christ he found a way to apply his innate sensitivity. Because he was so sensitive to many things, and allergic to most of them, he suffered more than we can imagine. But he did not complain. Instead, he helped everyone around him. He used his great talents to serve people in more ways than we can remember.”

For a number of years **Brother Patrick** was on the staff of the Students Brothers community at the College of Santa Fe. **Brother Jeffrey Calligan** recalls:

“When I think of **Brother Patrick**, I think of humility, precision, and a shy warmth. Much to his frustration, he taught College Physics to me and the rest of my confreres who were humanity majors. He was patient and encouraging to us although he confessed that our day-

class which met three times a week was behind his night class which met only once a week! Through the years, his quiet affability always struck me. In chapel with him it was easy to see that he was a friend of God. I always found him welcoming in a shy but warm manner.”

**Brother Ralph Baltz** gives yet another memory of **Brother Patrick** when he was on the staff of the Scholasticate:

“We found him to be very dedicated to his assignments, always affable and attentive, and eager to help. He was a leader by example in religious observance.

He might be described as ‘precision personified.’ When asked he would give you the time of the day to the second. He was enthusiastic about whatever touched him but especially about science matters, nature, outings and religious living.”

Our Lord Jesus said: “Learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart” (Mt 11:29) Surely **Brother Patrick** must have learned that from our Lord during the long periods of time he spent in meditation. He was a man who was very committed to the religious customs and practices of the religious life. Rarely was he absent from a community spiritual exercise, prayed the rosary daily and attended Mass daily and was always faithful to spiritual reading. **Brother Louis Welker**, who was a student brother when **Brother Patrick** was a member of the staff recalls:

“I often wondered why **Brother Patrick** was a member of our community and not living with

the college community? He didn’t have any real position of authority, never gave us a conference, rarely led us in prayer, but he was always present to us. He was a wonderful role model! All of the young Brothers called him ‘gads.’ Whenever we did something stupid or made a blundering mistake he would say: ‘gads’, and then correct us in a very gentle manner. He was always present for community outings and manual labor. My conclusion was that he was a member of our community to be a good example to us. We were all aware that he had heart problems and could have easily exempted himself from many community activities, but he did not. Like myself, he was not that enthusiastic about the changes that took place in the religious life in the mid-sixties but he learned to adapt while always holding on to what is essential to religious living. Like our Lord Jesus, **Brother Patrick** humbly washed the feet of so many of the young brothers who were struggling with their academic load or the demands of religious life. He was always encouraging in his remarks and once when I was discouraged with the whole college scene and just wanted to go back to Magnolia to work in the garden he said to me: ‘You can give up or you can keep on fighting.’ Well, not being one who surrenders that easily, I finished my collegiate years. It was his kindness and encouragement that kept me going! Yes, he was a good role model; he really stood for something.”

In 1986, **Brother Patrick** retired from teaching. His health was always delicate and was further complicated by the onset of osteoporosis. Over the course of the next few years the disease began to ravage his body in a dramatic way.

**Brother Jeffrey Calligan** remembers his last meeting with **Brother Patrick**:

**“I saw him about a year before he died when he was carrying around his oxygen tank. Bent over and burdened with the tank, he looked up and his face lighted up in a warm smile of welcome and fraternity. I believe that it is that smile that I will always remember.”**

As **Brother Luke Roney**, president of the College of Santa Fe from 1958 to 1982 remarked: **“He suffered a great deal in the last year, but he never complained.”**

In late November 2000, **Brother Patrick** began to experience great difficulty breathing. After a short stay in the hospital, it was decided that he should be transferred to the St. Michael's High School Community. On the morning of December 5, 2000, he died peacefully in his bed from complications of osteoporosis.

A rosary was recited at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 10, 2000, in the St. Michael's Chapel at the College of Santa Fe. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in the same chapel on Monday, December 11, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. Interment followed at Rosario Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Berardinelli Family Funeral Services. The Brothers and family are grateful to Heritage Care, **Cindy Lamm**, **Delphine Gurule** and the staff of Kelly Services for the care given **Brother Patrick**.

**Brother Patrick** is survived by one brother, **Joseph Edward Quin**, of Dickinson, TX, his first cousin, **Edward D. Quin, Jr.**, of Houston, TX, and the entire community of De La Salle Christian Brothers. He was preceded in death by his sister, **Mary Agnes Quin**.

Humility is rooted in the truth of reality. Grounded in a deep awareness of our limitations in the presence of divine perfection. **St. Thomas Aquinas**, who linked humility with magnanimity, saw the humble person as one who can achieve great things for **God** and for others, because, he no longer lives for himself. The late **Father Thomas Merton** explained humility in this way: “The truly humble person is delivered of all limitations and vicissitudes of creaturehood, and contingency, and swims in the attributes of **God**, whose power, magnificence, greatness and eternity, have through love, through humility become our own: (New Seeds of Contemplation, New York: New Directions, 1961, p. 181). For all who knew **Brother Patrick**, his humility gives us insight into the humility of **God** revealed in **Jesus Christ**. “He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death on a cross.” (Phil 2:8)

## **MAY HE REST IN PEACE!**

By: Brother Louis Welker, FSC  
Director, De La Salle Christian Brothers  
Lafayette, LA



**Wake Service For:  
Brother Patrick Quin  
1921 - 2000**

Each of us has fond memories of Brother Patrick: the twinkling in his Irish eyes, the dawning of his smile. He taught many of us. He advised most of us: on technical issues, or where to find springs in the wilderness, or how to cope with life. He calculated efficient ways to get things done, and worked with us to achieve them.

His work was deliberate, some would say slow. A bout with rheumatic fever did that to his biological clock. But it was exceptionally accurate. In fact, his accuracy was proverbial. Once he soldered 300 electrical components together, turned the device on, and they all worked perfectly.

This accuracy enabled him to discover a radioactive emission that many other physicists had missed. He was often aware that the rest of us missed. But he did not use his superior knowledge to criticize us. Instead, he was exceptionally kind, cheerfully enduring mistakes of students and colleagues alike, and patiently showing us how to improve. This accurate care made him a great teacher. Many students came here unprepared, but they learned the inner workings of science from him, and went on to find careers in medicine, physics, math, biology or computing.

His accurate care expressed the love of Christ that he shared with everyone he met. In Christ he found the way to apply his innate sensitivity. Because he was so sensitive to so many things, and allergic to most of them, he suffered more than we can imagine. But he did not complain. Instead, he helped everyone around him. He uses his great talents to serve people in more ways than

we can remember.

He wanted to serve more, but his health was fragile. Most people with his problems would have died years ago. But he exercised, stretching the limits of his slight body. Two months ago, when he fractured his pelvis, he needed a wheel chair. Some of us figured that he would never walk again. But he did. He would exercise his legs, pushing his walker, extending his ability to the utmost.

These and many other recollections stay with us while. Brother Patrick has gone to be with God. He is now in heaven, where his love for us will be even greater than we remember.

**Brother Brian Dybowski, FSC**

