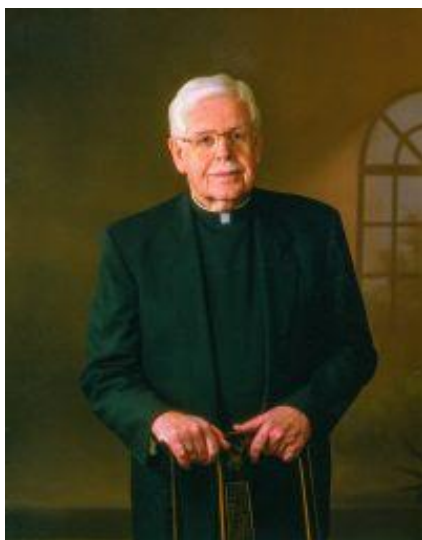


Rev. Charles Patrick Taaffe

40th State Chaplain of Oregon 1985-1987



Charles Patrick Taaffe was born December 13, 1926 in Portland, OR to Arthur and Anna Willis Taaffe and raised in Portland, Salem and Corvallis.

He recognized a call to the priesthood early in life and attended college at Mount Angel Seminary. He finished his theological studies at St. Edward Seminary near Seattle and was ordained in 1955 in Portland to the priesthood by Archbishop Edward Howard.

In the 1960s, Rev. Taaffe completed post-graduate coursework in art at Oregon State

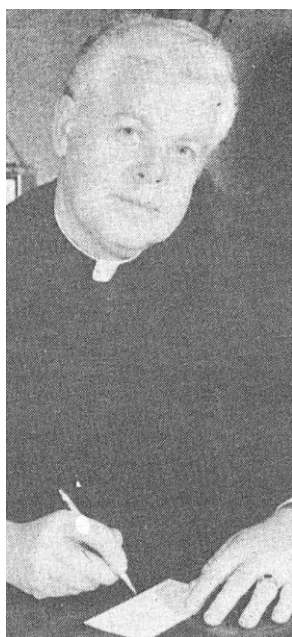
University and Linfield College.

Rev. Taaffe pastored at St. Thomas More in Portland, Queen of Peace in Salem, St. Rose and Our Lady of Victory in Monroe and Harrisburg, St. James in McMinnville, St. Edward in Keizer and St. Mary in Shaw



Rev. Taaffe 1955

Rev. Monsignor Taaffe began the Father Taaffe Foundation by opening the St. Brigid Home in a rented house on St. Patrick's Day in March of 1975 in Keizer, OR for pregnant teenaged girls. He



started the homes in part because of his great love for his own mother. By 1990, Rev. Taaffe had realized that many more teenage mothers were keeping their babies and that there was a need for more homes where young mothers could learn skills to help them succeed as single mothers. He established two more homes in the Salem area for teen moms: St. Monica in 1991 and St. Teresa in 1998. Since then, Msgr. Taaffe's homes have welcomed more than 1,000.

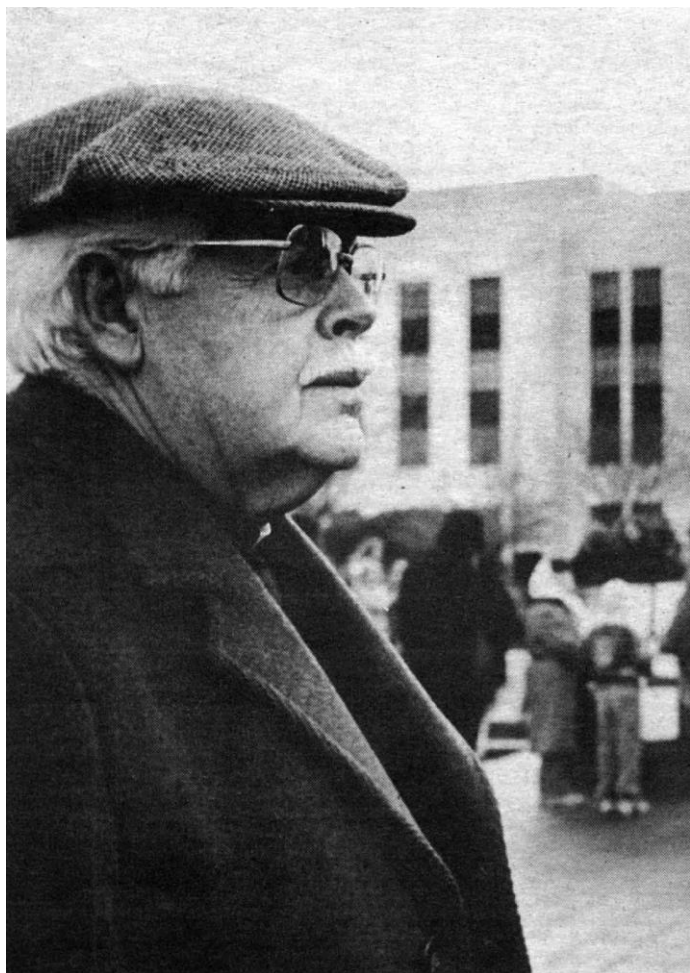
Rev. Taaffe received a Lumen Gentium award from Mount Angel Seminary, its highest honor, a Distinguished Service Award from the City of Salem and the Papal Medal, Benemerenti. He was made a Prelate of Honor by Pope Benedict. Blanchet High School in Salem, OR named its new chapel after him.

Rev. Taaffe was the Oregon Knights of Columbus State Chaplin 1985 –87, 1989 –91, Co-Chaplin with Most Rev. Kenneth Steiner 1991 –93, 1997 – 2001, 1999-2001, Honorary State Chaplin 2001 – 03.

Rev. Taaffe retired in 1997.

Rev. Charles Patrick Taaffe died on July 10, 2009 at Maryville Nursing Home in Beaverton, OR.

He is buried at the St. James Cemetery in McMinnville, OR.



*"I don't know why God called me to this, but I am so grateful if I've had a little part in saving even one baby."
Rev. Charles P. Taaffe, 1991*

