

## **Rev. Joseph Lehane**

Rev. Joseph Lehane, C.S.C., 87, died at Holy Cross House in South Bend, IN on Tuesday, August 24th.

Fr. Lehane, the son of Joseph and Loretta (Foley) Lehane, was born in Newport, RI on May 30, 1923. Following three years of military service (1943-46) in the Army in the China and Burma Field of Operations, he entered Stonehill College as a seminarian for the Congregation of Holy Cross.

He professed first vows in 1953, final vows in 1956 and was ordained to the priesthood on June 6, 1957. Fr. Lehane ministered for fifty years to the peoples of Bangladesh (formerly East Pakistan), spending the majority of his priesthood serving the people of the Srimongal Mission, a community that numbered 800 Catholics upon his arrival and over 9,000 upon his departure. Entrusted with fundraising efforts to support the mission, he spent his "vacations" raising funds and was able to build a mission center to serve the needs of the people. Due to illness he returned to the United States and continued as a mission fundraiser until shortly before his death.

Fr. Lehane is survived by his sister, Mary Horgan, and his brother, Robert Lehane, both of Newport, RI and numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

A memorial mass was celebrated at St. Augustin's Church, 2 Eastnor Ave., Newport, RI on Tuesday, August 31st at 11:00 a.m. Memorial Contributions for Fr. Lehane's Mission may be forwarded to: Congregation of Holy Cross, 835 Clinton Ave. Bridgeport, CT. 06604. For condolences visit [www.kanefuneralhome.com](http://www.kanefuneralhome.com)