

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Senger



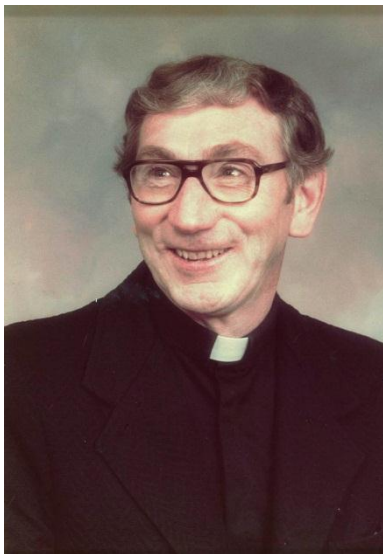
Msgr. Senger was born on March 19 to a family living in Southern Russia after immigrating from Riedselz, Alsace-Lorraine, Germany (present day France) more than 100 years earlier. Eventually they would leave Russia to homestead in north central North Dakota at the end of the 19th century. Theirs was a life of hardship and simple pleasures but also one firmly grounded in their faith.

After receiving his call to serve God and becoming an ordained priest on May 1, 1954, Fr. Senger's vocation has taken him from a life growing up as a German from Russia on a farm in Orrin, ND to positions back in Germany and at the Vatican. In 2001 Msgr. Senger was able to make an emotional trip to Strassburg in the Kutschurgan District near Odessa, Ukraine. There he

was able to say a Mass near where his mother was born in the village of Selz.



Fr. Senger in a wheat field near Odessa, Ukraine



Msgr. Senger eventually returned to the state of his youth and has served in many parishes across North Dakota including Bottineau, Milnor-Stirum, Knox-Fillmore, Velva-Karlsruhe, and Grand Forks. He presided over the St. Mary's parish from 1971-1985 and is currently retired from the priesthood and working part-time as chaplain at Trinity Medical Center in Minot, ND.

Fr. Senger with Pope John XXIII, Cardinal Meunch, and Bishop Lessard, during his four year tour of service for the Vatican in Germany and in Rome

