Obituary of Brother Gerard W. Schade, S.J.
By Fr. Peter Schineller, S.J.

Br. Gerard (Gerry) Schade, age 82, died on 20 April, 2011 at Montefiore North Hospital, Bronx, NY. He was born on 9 April, 1929 in Long Island City, of August and Mary (Pfaff) Schade. After attending St. Agnes High School, College Point, (1943-47, he entered the Society of Jesus on 14 September, 1948 at St. Andrew-on-Hudson, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. He pronounced his First Vows there two years later on 16 September.

As a Jesuit brother he served as infirmarian from 1950-60 in several communities in Poughkeepsie, Plattsburg, and Auriesville, N.Y. After his final year of training (tertianship) in Texas, he pronounced his Final Vows as a Jesuit at Fordham University on 15 August, 1959. From 1960-66 he assisted in Buffalo at the Jesuit Bureau and in promoting Brothers’ vocations.

Following two years of administration and teaching at Xavier High School, N.Y. (1966-68), he traveled to the Pacific to the Jesuit mission in the Caroline-Marshall Islands. From 1968-80 he assisted first at Majuro in the Marshall Islands, and until 1983 at Chuuk in the Caroline Islands. He recounted and described his travels and ministries in and around the Pacific with beautiful photos which were assembled in a picture albums and in a book entitled I Shall Return.

Returning to the USA mainland, he was an assistant (1983-88) at the province infirmary at Murray-Weigel Hall in the Bronx, and then was the director from 1988-98. In addition to his care and concern for the aged and infirm Jesuits, many recall his elaborate model train exhibit there. Following a sabbatical year, he moved across the Fordham campus to Loyola Hall, and served there as guestmaster and assistant to the minister from 1999 until his death.

Predeceased by his brothers, he leaves a sister-in-law, Mary Schade, and many nephews and nieces and grand nephews and nieces to celebrate his life and mourn his loss.