

## **James W. Skehan, S.J.**

James W. Skehan, S.J. is Professor and Director Emeritus of the Weston Observatory, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Boston College. His main field of research is assembly and dispersal of supercontinents with special expertise in the tectonics of the northern Appalachian Mountains. Professor Skehan has authored or co-authored over 100 publications on the geology of continents in the circum-Atlantic region.

In recognition of Dr. Skehan's research and teaching contributions to New England Geology, Professor Mark A.S. McMenemy, Paleontologist, Mount Holyoke College, named the Trilobite Genus (Skehanos) in honor of James W. Skehan. The ca. 505 million year old Middle Cambrian arthropod is the first new trilobite genus from Massachusetts to be named since the 1880's. As a Jesuit Geologist, Fr. Skehan has a special interest in the life and thought of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J. Fr. Skehan has authored the book *Praying with Teilhard de Chardin* and a number of chapters in volumes devoted to commemoration of Teilhard's life and spirituality. Reference to some of these can be found in the bibliographical section of this publication.