

October 14, 1953

Msgr. John Butler



Msgr. Butler was born April 5, 1898, in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada. He attended St. Patrick's School and St. Dunstan University, both in Charlottetown. After a year at Holy Heart Seminary in Halifax, Nova Scotia, he completed his studies at St. Bernard Seminary, Rochester, N.Y. He was ordained June 4, 1922 in Charlottetown and joined his brother, Father Francis Butler, in the Diocese of Wichita.

He served as an assistant at St. Mary's Cathedral in Wichita (1922-25).

He spent a decade in his first pastorate at St. Francis Xavier, Seward (1925-35). He had the additional responsibility for the mission of Holy Name of Jesus, Stafford, until 1932. During this pastorate, he built a new school at Seward (1926).

In 1935 he was appointed pastor at Sacred Heart, Pratt. He served as auxiliary chaplain at the air base there during World War II.

He served as pastor at St. Rose of Lima, Great Bend, for a short period in 1947 before being named rector of the Cathedral in Wichita (1947-55).

He was made a domestic prelate, with the rank of right reverend monsignor, on April 30, 1949.

A heart ailment forced Msgr. Butler to resign in July of 1955. He returned to his native Canada, where he died Oct. 14, 1955, at Fort Augustus, Prince Edward Island.

His funeral was celebrated at St. Patrick's Church in Fort Augustus, where his nephew, Father T.P. Bulter, was pastor. Burial was in the Cathedral church cemetery at St. Dunstan's Basilica, Charlottetown.