

May 23, 1978

Msgr. Aloysius Clupny



Msgr. Clupny was born April 18, 1895, in Wichita. He was ordained March 29, 1925 at St. Francis Seminary Chapel in Milwaukee, Wisc., by the Most Rev. Paul Rhode, bishop of Green Bay.

On April 14, 1925, Msgr. Clupny was named first resident pastor at Holy Trinity, Timken. He would spend nearly all of his 53 years of priestly life in this community.

In 1948, Bishop Carroll appointed him pastor at St. John Nepomucene in Pilsen. He served there for five months before asking the bishop to return to Timken.

Msgr. Clupny was 80 and had served as pastor of Timken for 50 years when he announced his retirement effective Nov. 23, 1975. A few weeks later, his request to remain on active duty was accepted by Bishop Forst.

He died on May 23, 1978 at the age of 83. Bishop Gerber celebrated the Mass of Resurrection at Holy Trinity Church. Burial was in Holy Cross Cemetery, Timken.

During Msgr. Clupny's pastorate, the Timken parish experienced tragedy and joy. On Feb. 25, 1945, the frame church burned to the ground. Msgr. Clupny was dragged back from the smoke and intense heat at the sanctuary door as he tried to save the Blessed Sacrament.

In 1946 the parish constructed a sturdy basement sub-structure. This "basement church" served the parish for 10 years before a new church was built atop it. Bishop Franz dedicated the new church on May 29, 1956.

Msgr. Clupny was elevated to the rank of domestic prelate by Pope John XXIII on May 8, 1959.

His sister, Sister Casimir Clupny, was a Sister of St. Joseph of Wichita and was involved in hospital ministry.