

November 24, 1959

Father Alban Hammel, OFM Cap



Father Alban was born Dec. 18, 1882, in Oberdorf, Baden-Württemberg, Germany. He was given the name Jacob at baptism. He donned the Capuchin habit in investiture ceremonies at the novitiate in Herman, Pa., on July 16, 1903. He made solemn vows July 17, 1907, and was ordained in the Cathedral at Baltimore, Md., by James Cardinal Gibbons on June 21, 1910.

He served in Cumberland, Md., and Pittsburgh, Pa., before his assignments in Kansas.

Father Alban was stationed at the monastery at Marienthal from 1916 to 1924 to assist in the missions of St. John the Baptist, Bazine; St. Ignatius, Nonchalanta; and St. Joseph, Scott City. In 1924, he was chosen to serve as superior and pastor of St. Catherine, Catharine, and continued in this assignment until 1930.

After assignments in Cumberland, Md., and Wheeling, W. Va., he returned to Kansas in 1936 where he was stationed at the Sacred Heart Friary in Ness City and given charge of St. Aloysius, Ransom.

He served as a missionary in Guam from 1937 to 1939.

His last assignment in Kansas was a one-year pastorate at St. Fidelis, Victoria (1939-40).

His remaining assignments were in Maryland and Pittsburgh. He was chaplain to the Sisters of St. Francis at Mt. Alvernia, Pittsburgh at the time of his death.

Father Alban died Nov. 24, 1959, at the age of 76. The Very Rev. Giles Staab celebrated the funeral Mass at St. Augustine's Church in Pittsburgh, Pa. He was assisted by Father Jordan Hammel, a brother. Burial was in the parish cemetery.