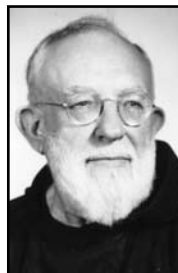


December 29, 1980

Father Jordan Hammel, OFM Cap



Father Jordan (Sebastian Hammel) was born in 1895 in Oberndorf, Germany. He came to America at the age of 17 to study for the priesthood. He was ordained May 25, 1923, in Baltimore by Archbishop Michael Curley.

All 57 years of his priesthood were spent in Kansas. He served as pastor in the following parishes: St. Agnes, Yocemento (1925-26); St. John's, Bazine, and St. Ignatius, Nonchalanta (1927-33), with residence at Sacred Heart Friary, Ness City; St. Anne's, Walker (1936-39); St. Mary's, Herndon (1939-44); St. Joseph, Arma, and St. Gabriel, Mulberry (1944-48); Sacred Heart, Emmeram (1948-51 and 1959-62); and St. John, Beardsley, and SS. Cyril and Methodius, near Atwood (1951-58).

He was associate pastor at St. Joseph, Hays (1933-36) and St. Mary's, Ellis (1958-59 and 1962-70).

He also taught at Hays Catholic College from 1925 to 1927, and at St. Francis Seminary in Victoria from 1959 to 1962.

During Father Jordan's pastorate at Bazine, a fire of unknown origin damaged the church on July 23, 1930. Three men driving by drew water from a well and saved the church from total destruction. Everything in the sacristy was burned or damaged. The following Sunday, Father Jordan returned to Bazine to presented the three men with a box of cigars in recognition of their services.

Father Jordan died Dec. 29, 1980 at St. Anthony Hospital, Hays. He was 85. A nephew, the Most Rev. Thomas Connelly, bishop of Baker, Oregon, was the principal celebrant for the funeral Mass in St. Fidelis Church. Burial was in the parish cemetery.