

April 29, 1985

Father Edward Kingston, CSSp



Father Kingston was born Dec. 29, 1903, on the family farm northwest of Hoisington. He was baptized at St. Ann's Church, Olmitz. He is considered the first priestly vocation from St. John the Evangelist Parish, Hoisington. He joined the Holy Ghost Fathers and took his theological studies at St. Mary Seminary, Ferndale, Conn. He was ordained Sept. 17, 1932, by Bishop Maurice McAuliffe, auxiliary bishop of Hartford.

He wanted to be sent to Africa, but because of his fluency in Spanish, he was assigned as a missionary to Puerto Rico.

Except for one year as administrator at St. Peter Claver, Wichita (1940-41), Father Kingston served his entire priestly life in Puerto Rico.

In his first assignment, he was assistant at San Felipe, Arecibo (1933-41). He served as pastor at four parishes: Virgen Del Carmen, Barceloneta (1941-48); Virgen del Carmen, Rio Grande (1948-54); San Felipe, Arecibo (1954-60); and Sagrado Corazon, Arecibo (1961-65).

When the Diocese of Arecibo was erected in 1960, Father Kingston became the rector of the Catedral de San Felipe Apostol and organized the diocesan offices.

He served briefly as an assistant at Espiritu Santo, Hato Rey, before he was named Vicar General of the Archdiocese of San Juan (1966-82). He also served as secretary to the Apostolic Delegate in Puerto Rico (1978-85).

Father Kingston died April 29, 1985, at age 81. Luis Cardinal Aponte Martinez celebrated the funeral Mass at Espiritu Santo Church. Burial was in the Holy Ghost Fathers plot, Santa Cruz Cemetery in Arecibo, Puerto Rico.