

**September 3, 1947**

**Msgr. Leo Klasinski**

Msgr. Klasinski was born Aug. 29, 1892 in Leavenworth. He was ordained March 23, 1918, by Bishop Hennessy in St. Mary's Cathedral, Wichita.



He served as an assistant at the cathedral until shortly after Father Dominic Wojciedchowski died of Spanish influenza. He succeeded this pastor at St. Barbara, Chicopee, with missions that included St. Philip Neri, Franklin; St. Cronin's, Fleming; Sacred Heart, Edson, with St. Anastasia's, Cherokee. He built churches at Franklin (1920) and Chicopee (1922).

In 1936 he was named pastor at St. Patrick, Florence. During this pastorate he had the church frescoed, built a new school and provided a residence for the teaching Sisters (1940). He also cared for the sacramental needs of German prisoners of war who were held in a compound outside of Peabody during World War II.

He was named Papal Chamberlain and elevated to the rank of monsignor by Pope Pius XII in 1943.

He was appointed pastor of St. John the Baptist, Spearville, following the death of Father Frank Dombrowsky in 1946. Msgr. Klasinski died just over a year later on Sept. 3, 1947, at the age of 55.

During his priestly ministry he was Diocesan Director of the Propagation of the Faith and dean of the Dodge City Deanery. He also served as State Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus (1942 and 1943).

Bishop Carroll celebrated the funeral Mass at St. John the Baptist Church in Spearville. Among those assisting was a brother, Father George Klasinski, O.Carm. Burial was in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Lansing.