

**October 6, 1981**

**Msgr. Joseph Klug**



Msgr. Klug was born April 4, 1892, in Odin. He was ordained to the priesthood with Msgr. A.A. Hermann in Holy Family Church, Odin, by Bishop Hennessy on May 19, 1915. It is believed that this was the first time in the Wichita diocese that ordinations took place in the church of the native sons.

Msgr. Klug served as secretary to Bishop Hennessy and assistant at the Cathedral in Wichita from 1915 to 1917.

His first pastorate was Sacred Heart, Dodge City, and extended for 23 years (1917-40). In addition to the missions at St. Andrew, Wright, and St. Stanislaus, Ingalls, he had the additional responsibility of the stations of Copeland, Moscow, Rolla, and Elkhart along the Santa Fe railroad spur. He also cared for the stations at Folsom, near present day Sublette, Hugoton and Ulysses. He erected a new school at Dodge City in 1929.

During his 21-year pastorate at St. Joseph, Andale (1940-61), he erected a new convent (1950).

In 1961, he asked to be assigned as chaplain at St. Luke Hospital, Marion. He served in this post until 1966 when he retired and moved to Odin.

Pope Pius XII honored him with the title monsignor and elevated him to the ranks of domestic prelate in 1943, and Protonotary Apostolic in 1957. Msgr. Klug served the Wichita diocese as vicar general from 1958 to 1961.

Msgr. Klug died in Great Bend Oct. 6, 1981, at the age of 89. Bishop David Maloney of Wichita was joined by Bishop Gerber in celebrating his funeral at Holy Family Church. Burial was in Nazareth Cemetery at Odin.