

August 9, 1970

Father John Kostik, CPPS



Father Kostik was born Aug. 29, 1894, at Tavana, Hungary. He was professed in the Society of the Precious Blood Sept. 8, 1919, and was ordained May 5, 1921 by the Most Rev. Henry Moeller, archbishop of Cincinnati, at St. Charles Seminary, Carthagena, Ohio.

Following ordination he taught two years at St. Joseph's College, Collegeville, Ind. He was a graduate student at the University of Michigan working toward a master's in biology when his studies were interrupted due to serious illness in his family.

He became assistant pastor at St. John the Baptist in Whiting, Ind., in 1925. Two years later he was appointed pastor, a role he filled until 1945.

Father Kostik served two years as rector of St. Charles Seminary (1945-47) and then 15 years (1947-62) in Chile as a missionary in the South American Vicariate.

For four months (1962-63), Father Kostik was administrator at St. Stanislaus, Ingalls, where he assisted Father George Spaeth who had cancer. After Father Spaeth died, Father Urban Landoll was appointed pastor and Father Kostik returned to St. John, Whiting, as associate pastor.

Father Kostik died Aug. 9, 1970 at the age of 75. He was stricken while enjoying a late afternoon stroll, rosary in hand, in his flower garden behind St. John's Rectory at Whiting. The Most Rev. Andrew Grutka, bishop of Gary, celebrated the funeral at St. John Church. The final obsequies were held at St. Charles Seminary at Carthagena with the Most Rev. Joseph Marling, bishop emeritus of Jefferson City, presiding. Burial was in the community cemetery.