

July 24, 1954

Father Joseph Mayerhoefer, OFM Cap



Father Joseph was born Nov. 6, 1882, in Stegbruck, Bavaria, Germany. He was vested with the Capuchin habit on July 16, 1903, and ordained June 21, 1910 by James Cardinal Gibbons in the Cathedral at Baltimore, Md.

All of Father Joseph's priestly ministry was spent in Kansas with the exception of a two-year assignment in Dover, Ohio.

He served as a professor at St. Joseph College, Hays from 1911 to 1914 when he was assigned to Victoria and put in charge of St. Ann's, Walker.

In 1915, he returned to Hays as teacher and prefect and the following year he cared for St. John the Baptist, Hyacinth. He then moved to Munjor and cared for Our Lady Help of Christians, Antonino.

He went to Herndon in 1918 and cared for the missions of St. Patrick's, Tully; St. Joseph's, Bird City; and St. Francis, St. Francis. He later attended Sacred Heart, Atwood, from Herndon. In 1921 he returned to Victoria where he again had charge of the parish at Walker.

Father Joseph had two assignments in the Dodge City diocese. In 1924, he was stationed at Sacred Heart Friary in Ness City and cared for St. Aloysius, Ransom, until 1928. He was superior and pastor at St. Mary's, Marienthal from 1939 to 1941.

Other assignments took him to Catharine and Ellis.

Father Joseph died July 24, 1954 at the age of 71. He was diagnosed with cancer two years prior to his death. Father Roland Raible, OFM, Cap., celebrated the funeral Mass at St. Joseph's Church in Hays. Burial was in the friar's plot at St. Joseph Cemetery.