

June 26, 1967

Father Paul Meier



Father Meier was born March 11, 1917 in Russell. He was ordained Feb. 9, 1946, in the chapel at Sacred Heart College (now Newman University), Wichita, by Bishop Winkelmann. He then returned to Catholic University in Washington, D.C., to complete his M.A. in sociology.

Upon his return, he was appointed chaplain at Wichita Hospital (1946-47). Bishop Winkelmann also named him assistant director of the diocesan bureau of Catholic Charities and Social Service agencies.

After the death of Msgr. Leo Klasinski, Father Meier served as administrator at St. John the Baptist, Spearville, in September and October of 1947. This would be his only assignment in the Dodge City diocese.

He served as assistant pastor at All Saints, Wichita, from 1947 to 1950.

His pastorates included: Sacred Heart, Caney, with the mission St. Joseph, Cedarvale, (1950); St. Mark, Marion, (1950-53); St. Mary, Chase, (1953-59); St. Aloysius, Greenbush, (1959-63); St. Peter Claver, Wichita, (1963-66), and Immaculate Conception, Danville, (1966-67).

During his pastorate at St. Peter Claver, he directed a feasibility study of Wichita's all black parish. He recommended that the cause of social justice would be advanced by integrating the races. The parish was closed in 1966.

Father Meier died suddenly on June 26, 1967 in Grove, Okla. His funeral Mass was concelebrated at Danville by his classmates: Fathers Clifford Landis, Leroy Matz and James Roth. Bishop Byrne delivered the homily. A second funeral was celebrated by Bishop Carroll at St. Anthony, Wichita. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery in Wichita.