

July 29, 1937

Father Michael Mennis



Father Mennis was born July 2, 1865 at Dunmanway, County Cork, Ireland. He was raised in New Zealand where he became a champion shot-putter. He was ordained June 15, 1890, by the Right Rev. John Egan, bishop of Waterford. He served the Australian missions for a number of years before coming to America.

Father Mennis was pastor at Sacred Heart, Dodge City, from 1903 to 1910. His original mission district included St. Patrick's, Coolidge; St. Mary's, Garden City, and St. John, Meade Center, with stations at Lakin, Liberal, Odee, West Plains and Ulysses.

During his pastorate at Dodge City, he built St. Andrew's Church in Wright, St. Stanislaus Church in Ingalls, and St. John the Baptist in Meade (1909). He also initiated work on St. Anthony's Church, Fowler (1910).

He had short assignments at St. Peter's, Schulte; Sacred Heart, Frontenac, and St. Joseph's, Beeville, Tex., before transferring to the Diocese of Denver.

There he served at St. Peter's, Greeley; St. Mary of the Assumption, Central City; St. Peter's, Cripple Creek; St. Patrick, Holyoke, and Holy Family, Denver.

He transferred to the Diocese of Louisville in 1925 where he served at St. Frances of Rome and then St. Philip Neri, both in Louisville. His last assignment was as chaplain of the St. Vincent's Orphanage for Girls.

He died July 29, 1937 at the age of 72. Father B.J. Boland celebrated the funeral at St. Frances of Rome Church. Burial was in St. Louis Cemetery, Louisville, Ky.

Father C. Mennis, D.D., a brother, was a professor at St. John's Seminary, Brooklyn, New York.