

**September 21, 1988**

**Father Kieran Murray**



Father Murray was born April 3, 1927, in Drogheda, County Louth, Ireland. He was ordained for the Wichita diocese by the Most Rev. Cornelius Lucey, bishop of Cork, on June 21, 1953, at All Hollows Seminary, Dublin.

Father Murray's arrival was delayed because of an appendectomy. Six other newly-ordained Irish priests were divided with the Dodge City diocese in a drawing in Bishop Carroll's office. Fathers John Kavanagh, Thomas Kirby and Thomas McGread picked slips with "Wichita." Fathers Eugene Kenny, Andrew McGovern and Ultan Murphy picked slips with "Dodge City." When Father Murray arrived, the bishop sent him to Dodge City.

Father Murray served as an assistant at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Dodge City (1953-55), before being appointed chaplain at St. Anthony Hospital. In 1956, he was released to Providence, R.I., for health concerns. When he returned to Kansas, he served as assistant pastor at St. Rose, Great Bend (1959-60) and St. Anthony's, Liberal (1960-63).

He transferred to the Diocese of San Francisco in 1963. There he served in numerous pastoral assignments and chaplaincies. He was later incardinated in the Diocese of San Jose. Father Murray was serving as chaplain at St. Francis Hospital in Honolulu, Hawaii, when he died of acute leukemia on Sept. 21, 1988. He was 61.

Father Bernard Cassidy, S.J., celebrated the funeral in the hospital chapel. A memorial Mass was celebrated by Father Frank Murray, a cousin, at Queen of the Apostles Church, San Jose, with Bishop Pierre DuMaine of San Jose presiding. The body was cremated and Father Murray's ashes were scattered over the island of Kauai.