

February 19, 1970

Father Clayton Noll, CPPS



Father Noll was born July 2, 1905, at Fort Wayne, Ind. He entered the Society of the Precious Blood at the age of 14 to begin study for the priesthood. He was professed in Sept. 1925, and was ordained May 14, 1931 by the Most Rev. Joseph Albers, auxiliary bishop of Cincinnati.

His first priestly assignment took him to St. Mary, Cincinnati, where he served as a popular and energetic assistant pastor until August of 1935. He was then assigned to the mission band and for the next seven years he toured the eastern part of the country, giving parish missions and retreats. He was a chaplain with the U.S. Navy during World War II, and served in the Pacific Theater (1942-46).

After his release from military service, Father Noll returned to the home-mission trails.

During this time he had two brief assignments in the Dodge City diocese. In the summer of 1949, Father Noll served as a substitute for Precious Blood pastors in the parishes of St. Anthony, Liberal; St. Patrick, Plains; and St. Joan of Arc, Elkhart. Then in the summer of 1956 he served as chaplain of Bob Wilson Hospital in Ulysses and cared for Mary, Queen of Peace as a mission.

Ill health would curtail Father Noll's priestly work the rest of his life. Despite his limitations, he continued to search out part-time roles of service. Finally he retired at St. Charles Seminary in 1963, where he contributed his own special brand of wry humor and good cheer.

He died Feb. 19, 1970, at the age of 64. Father John Byrne, provincial, celebrated the funeral at St. Charles Seminary. Burial was in the cemetery at Carthagena.