

September 9, 1959

Father Michael O'Donovan



Father O'Donovan was born July 17, 1904, in Mitchelstown, Ireland. His education was completed at Christian Brothers School, Middleton; Mt. St. Joseph College, Rocrea, County Tipperary; All Hallows College, Dublin, and Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. He was ordained June 2, 1928 by Bishop Schwertner at St. Mary's Cathedral in Wichita.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Patrick, Parsons, until receiving his first pastorate at St. Rose of Lima, Council Grove in 1932. He also attended the missions of Holy Redeemer, Tampa, and Corpus Christi, Skiddy.

In 1937 he was named the first resident pastor of St. Joseph's, McPherson, with Holy Trinity, Little River, as a mission. During this pastorate a rectory was built at McPherson (1940).

He was appointed pastor at St. John the Evangelist, Hoisington, in 1942. He took sick leave for one year in 1948, and resumed his pastoral duties until 1950 when he was named chaplain at Villa Maria Home for the Aged in Mulvane.

Long besieged by a muscle ailment of the throat, he retired from active parochial work in 1951. He resided in his home in Lyons until his death on Sept. 9, 1959, at the age of 55.

Bishop Carroll celebrated the Pontifical Mass of Requiem at St. John the Evangelist Church in Hoisington. Burial was in the parish cemetery.

A sister of Father O'Donovan, Sister Mel Marie, was member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Wichita.