

**November 19, 1968**

**Father Edmund Pusch, OSB**



Father Edmund (Stephen Paul) Pusch was born Sept. 24, 1889, in a prairie dugout at Claflin. He was baptized at Holy Family Church, Odin, but entered St. Benedict's College from St. Anthony Parish at Hanston. In 1912, he entered the Benedictine novitiate at St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pa. He was ordained Dec. 20, 1918, by Bishop John Ward of Leavenworth at St. Benedict's Church, Atchison.

From 1918 to 1922, he taught in the high school, college and seminary at St. Benedict's College. During this time he was also the college druggist and did fine work during the flu epidemic of 1918.

In his longest assignment, Father Edmund served more than 21 years as procurator of St. Benedict's Abbey and College (1922-43). During this span he managed skillfully the business affairs connected with the construction of St. Benedict's Abbey and several other buildings at Mount St. Scholastica, St. Benedict's College, and Maur Hill, and helped guide his religious community through the Great Depression.

His pastoral assignments included: St. John's, Burlington, Iowa (1943-49), and Sts. Peter and Paul, Seneca (1949-55).

In his last assignment, he served as chaplain to the Benedictine Sisters at St. Mary's Priory, Nauvoo, Ill., (1955-65). He retired to Atchison in 1965.

Father Edmund died after heart seizures Nov. 19, 1968, while in apparent good health. He was 79. Abbot Thomas Hartman celebrated the funeral Mass in St. Benedict's Abbey Church. Burial was in the abbey cemetery.