

**May 17, 1988**

**Father Theodore Rath, CPPS**



Father Rath was born Aug. 7, 1904, in Columbus, Ohio. He was professed in the Society of the Most Precious Blood Dec. 3, 1924, and was ordained May 5, 1932, at St. Charles Seminary, Carthagena, Ohio.

In his early assignments, he served as assistant pastor at St. Anthony, Park Falls, Wisc.; St. Michael's, Dotyville, Wisc.; Holy Rosary, Lander, Wyo.; and St. Agnes, San Antonio, Tex. At Centerville, Iowa, he served in the missions attached to St. Mary Parish.

Father Rath served in western Kansas for nine years. In 1941, he was assigned as an assistant pastor at St. Mary, Garden City, with charge of the missions at St. Raphael, Syracuse, and St. Anthony, Lakin.

In 1947, Father Rath was appointed first resident pastor at St. Anthony, Lakin, with charge of the missions at St. Raphael, Syracuse, and Mary Queen of Peace, Ulysses. A year later, Father Rath changed his residence to Syracuse upon the completion of the rectory there. He also served the mission at St. Bernadette, Johnson.

His other pastoral assignments included: St. Paul's, Hazelton, N.Dak.; St. Peter, Archbold, Ohio; St. Martin, Hazen, N.Dak.; Blessed Trinity, Grassna, N.Dak.; and St. Catherine, Nowata, Okla.

He also served in two chaplaincies at St. Joseph Hospital, Centerville, Iowa, and at the Sisters Adorers Motherhouse in Ruma, Ill.

Father Rath died May 17, 1938, in the infirmary at St. Charles Seminary. He was 83 years of age. The funeral Mass was celebrated in the seminary chapel. Burial was in the community cemetery at Carthagena.