

December 12, 1951

Father Sebastian Ripero, CMF



Father Ripero was born Jan. 20, 1879, in Artajona, Navarre, Pamplona, Spain. He professed to the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (the Claretians) on Aug. 15, 1897 in Cerveva, Spain. He was ordained July 23, 1905, by Bishop Gregorio Aguirre in Santo Domingo de La Calzada, La Rioja, Spain.

After his ordination, Father Ripero did missionary work in Spain. In 1908 he was sent to Mexico where he remained four years before coming to the United States.

Father Ripero was a member of the Claretian foundation that served the railroad workers and their families in Dodge City's Mexican Village (1914-16). He also cared for the mission at St. Stanislaus, Ingalls, at times.

In addition to his Dodge City assignment, Father Ripero served at San Marcos, Calif.; Yuma, Ariz; Jerome, Ariz; San Gabriel Mission, San Gabriel, Calif; the Old Plaza Church, and the Claretian Novitiate in Los Angeles; Chicago; San Antonio, Texas; Panama; Santo Nino, Phillipines; Kingman, Ariz.; San Antonio, Texas; and back to Los Angeles.

Father Ripero was preaching the Novena in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Santa Ana, Calif., when he died on Dec. 12, 1951. He retired for the evening after taking a snack with the priests of the parish and died in his sleep.

Father Marcinus Nino, provincial, celebrated the funeral Mass at the Old Plaza Church in downtown Los Angeles, Calif. Burial was at the San Gabriel Mission Campo Santo, San Gabriel, Calif.