

September 28, 1967

Father Raymond Ryan, OFM Cap



Father Ryan was born Feb. 3, 1889, in Hays. He was named William Blaise, paying respect to the Saint on whose feast day he was born. He was invested as a Capuchin novice in 1907. His health broke down in 1910 during his theology studies at SS. Peter and Paul Monastery in Cumberland, Md. It was discovered that he was tubercular and he was sent to Victoria to be in a more agreeable climate. There for six years, he worked to regain his health and studied theology privately under the tutelage of Father Charles Speckert. He was ordained May 12, 1916, by the Most Rev. John Cunningham, bishop of Concordia, at St. Fidelis Church, Victoria.

He had several brief assignments before going to Glockner Tuberculosis Hospital in Colorado Springs. He was a patient there from 1919 to 1927, and had an arrangement whereby he served as chaplain.

He returned to Kansas in 1927 and was assistant at St. Mary, Ellis, and then St. Francis, Munjor.

Father Ryan's only assignment in the Dodge City diocese was to care for St. Theresa, Dighton, a mission of Marienthal (1929-33).

He was chaplain at St. Anthony Hospital in Hays from 1936 to 1952 and again from 1953 until June of 1967. For one year (1952-53), he was chaplain at the hospital in Atwood.

Father Ryan died Sept. 28, 1967 in Hays. The Very Rev. Thomas More Janeck, provincial, concelebrated the funeral Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Hays. Bishop Cyril Vogel of Salina presided and performed the rite of absolution. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery.