

April 5, 2005

Msgr. George Schmidt



Msgr. Schmidt was born Dec. 3, 1914, in Liebenthal, the sixth of 10 children of John and Anna (Heronema) Schmidt. He attended St. Joseph School at Liebenthal; St. Joseph Military Academy, Hays; St. Gregory College, Shawnee, Okla.; and St. Louis Preparatory and Kenrick Seminaries, St. Louis. He was ordained June 7, 1941 by Bishop Winkelmann in St. Joseph Church, Liebenthal.

In 1957 he was named a papal chamberlain and in 1960 he was made a domestic prelate.

Msgr. Schmidt served as an assistant at St. Rose of Lima, Great Bend, (1941), and St. Mary's Cathedral in Wichita, (1941-44).

His pastorates included: St. Mary, Sitka, with the mission St. Joseph, Ashland; St. Peter, Schulte; Church of the Magdalen, Wichita (as founding pastor); St. Mary, Chase, with the mission Holy Trinity, Little River; and St. Mark at St. Mark, Kans.

Msgr. Schmidt served the Sitka and Ashland parishes from 1944 to 1950. He started a parish school in Ashland in 1945. He moved his residence from Sitka to Ashland in 1947. He coached the boys' football and basketball teams at Ashland High School during World War II. He was well thought of and gave the baccalaureate for the high school graduation in 1946.

Msgr. Schmidt retired in 1990 after serving the St. Mark parish for nearly 12 years. He resided at the Catholic Care Center until he died at the age of 90 on April 5, 2005. The Most Rev. Michael Jackels, bishop of Wichita, celebrated his funeral at St. Mary's Cathedral. Burial was in the St. Mark's Cemetery at St. Mark.