

**August 20, 1954**

**Father Salesius Schneweis, OFM Cap**



Father Salesius was born Jan. 26, 1878, in Austria. He was given the name Adolph at Baptism. He moved to Odin in his early youth. In 1896 entered the Capuchin Order, and was ordained in Milwaukee Aug. 15, 1903. He was the first priest-son of Holy Family Parish.

He taught at St. Lawrence's College at Mt. Calvary, Wisc., for 24 years (1903-27). Many priests from the Wichita and Dodge City dioceses owe their early seminary training to him.

He spent the remaining 27 years of his life (1927-54) at St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit, Mich., where he served as provincial secretary and procurator for the Capuchin Province of St. Joseph.

In 1954, for the 75th jubilee of Odin parish, Father Salesius wrote: "I still recall with reverence the sturdy faith of the first settlers, evidence by the fact that they assembled in church, even on those Sundays when they had no Mass, to recite the Rosary, the Litany of the Saints and to have the Epistle and Gospel of the Sunday read from the *Goffine*. It seems to me that this faith and sense of duty found its reward in the many vocations that have developed in the parish in the course of the past 75 years." (The jubilee book listed nine priests, four Brothers, and 45 Sisters)

Father Salesius died Aug. 20, 1954, as the result of a sudden heart attack. He was 76. The Very Rev. Cyprian Abler celebrated the Requiem Mass in the chapel at St. Bonaventure Monastery. Capuchin Father Emil Schneweis, a nephew, served as deacon. The Most Rev. Alexander Zaleski, auxiliary bishop of Detroit, gave the final absolution. Burial was in the monastery cemetery.