

March 23, 1946

Father Raphael Serrano, CMF

Father Serrano was born June 2, 1871, in Cintruenigo, Navarra, Spain. He professed as a member of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (the Claretians), and was ordained for that order in 1894.

He was among a group of priests and brothers who came from San Antonio, Tex., to Dodge City in 1915 to work among the families living in the Mexican Village in the Santa Fe Railyard.

Other Claretians who were stationed in Dodge City were Father Arturo Vallve, Father Anthimus Nebreda, Father Sebastian Ripero, Brother Joachim Cordero and Brother Aloysius Puig. It is not known whether all of these men served in Dodge City at the same time.

In addition to his work in the Mexican Village, Father Serrano served as a chaplain on the St. Peter Chapel Car in the early months of 1914 as it toured the Wichita diocese. During this short chaplaincy, Father Serrano gave missions for the Mexican people at stops in Hutchinson, Florence, Augusta, Arkansas City, Harper and Pratt. The Pratt mission took place over five days: Feb. 16-21, 1914.

The Claretians returned to San Antonio in 1916. Father Serrano's other parish assignments in the U.S., included: San Fernando Cathedral and Immaculate Heart of Mary, both in San Antonio; St. Joachim's, Newman, Calif.; Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles; Immaculate Conception, Yuma, Ariz.; San Gabriel Mission, San Gabriel, Calif.; and St. Francis of Assisi, Chicago.

Father Serrano died March 23, 1946, in England after an operation. He was 74 years of age. At the time of his death he was pastor of St. Edmund's, Loughton, Essex.