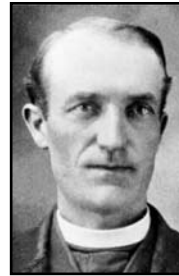


September 18, 1958

Msgr. John Sklenar



Msgr. Sklenar was born July 2, 1868, in Milavec, Bohemia. He immigrated with his parents to Marion County, Kansas, in the 1870s, and became part of the new St. John Nepomucene Parish in Pilsen. He was ordained June 21, 1891, by Bishop Hennessy.

He was first appointed assistant at St. Anthony, Olmitz, where he helped Father J.B. Disselkamp with his many missions. He was particularly suited for this assignment as he spoke Bohemian, English and German. He was a tremendous asset given the different immigrant groups.

His pastorates included: St. Joseph, Liebenthal (1891-93); St. Ann, Olmitz, with St. Anthony, Olmitz, and mission stations at Bazine, Dighton, Leoti, McCracken, and Ness City (1893-98); St. Patrick, Florence, and St. Mary, Halstead (1898-1899); St. Anthony, Strong City (1899-1903), and St. John Nepomucene, Pilsen, (1903-43).

He was elevated to the rank of domestic prelate by Pope Pius XII on June 21, 1941.

Msgr. Sklenar died at St. Luke's Hospital in Marion on Sept. 18, 1958, at the age of 90. He was proud of his connection with Chaplain Emil Kapaun. Msgr. Sklenar "baptized Father Kapaun, gave him First Communion, guided him through school, saw him ordained, assisted at the first Mass, had him for his own assistant and finally saw the day when Father Kapaun became a symbol of greatness to the American soldier in the Korean conflict." (AR Sept. 24, 1958)

Bishop Carroll celebrated the funeral Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church in Pilsen. Burial was in the parish cemetery.