

September 23, 2005

Father Adolph Stremel



Father Stremel was born June 14, 1910 at Pfeifer. He attended Mary, Help of Christians grade school. He was ordained June 6, 1936 by Bishop Schwertner at St. Mary's Cathedral in Wichita.

Among his pastorates were: St. Joseph, Yates Center, with the mission Immaculate Conception, Owl Creek, (1936-1938), and Sts. Peter and Paul, North Kinsley, and St. Anthony, Hanston, (1938-1943).

During his pastorate at North Kinsley, on the evening of Easter Sunday 1939, all the parish buildings were damaged by what he referred to as a "baby cyclone." The church windows were broken out and the bell tower and steeple were badly damaged.

In 1943 he was released from his parish duties for military service. He served in World War II as a military chaplain in the U.S. Army and rose to the rank of captain. He completed his three-year military chaplaincy in 1946.

After his military service Father Stremel's pastorates included: St. Paul, Lyons, with Holy Trinity, Little River, (1946-1951), and St. Patrick, Florence, (1951-1952).

He was granted a leave of absence for health reasons in 1952. He moved to San Diego, Calif., where his parents and other members of his family lived.

Father Stremel died Sept. 23, 2005, in San Pedro, Calif., at the age of 95. The Most Rev. Eugene J. Gerber, bishop emeritus of Wichita, celebrated the funeral Mass at the chapel of the Home for the Aged with the Little Sisters of the Poor in San Pedro. Burial was in Holy Cross Cemetery in San Diego, Calif.

Sister Appolonia, a sibling, was a Sister Adorer.