

July 22, 1981

Msgr. Alex Stremel



Msgr. Stremel was born Jan. 9, 1905 at St. Peter in Graham County. He was ordained June 2, 1928, by Bishop Schwertner at St. Mary's Cathedral. He served as assistant pastor at St. Martin, Caldwell; Our Lady of Lourdes, Pittsburg; and at St. Mary's Cathedral.

In 1932, he became the first resident pastor at St. Joseph, Conway Springs. His pastorates in the Dodge City diocese were: St. Anthony, Fowler, with the mission St. John, Meade, (1935-39); Immaculate Heart of Mary, Windthorst, (1939-46); and Holy Family, Odin (1946-49).

During Msgr. Stremel's pastorate at Fowler, he introduced a weekly radio program known as "The Shepherd's Hour." The program about Catholic doctrine was broadcast over KGNO in Dodge City for seven years. He was also engaged in street preaching in small towns during the 1930s.

During Msgr. Stremel's pastorate at Windthorst, he also served as superintendent of the local school. He organized the St. Mary's Activity Club to provide social activities, encourage interest in dramatics, literature and Catholic knowledge. He wrote and directed "Calvary Hill," which was staged during Holy Week from 1941 to 1946.

His remaining pastorates were Our Lady of Lourdes, Pittsburg (1949-63), and St. Mark at St. Mark (1963-71).

On Nov. 18, 1956, he was elevated to the rank of domestic prelate by Pope Pius XII.

Msgr. Stremel retired to Eureka Springs, Ark., in 1971. He died at Rogers, Ark., July 22, 1981, at the age of 76. Bishop David Maloney officiated at the funeral in St. Mark's Church. Burial was in the cemetery at St. Mark.