

February 9, 1955

Father Maurice Tasset



Father Tasset was born in Kinsley on Feb. 11, 1928. He attended Sts. Peter and Paul School, north of Kinsley, and graduated from Windthorst High School. He was ordained by Bishop Franz at Sacred Heart Cathedral May 29, 1954. He offered his first Mass at St. Nicholas Church in Kinsley, June 2, 1954.

He was appointed assistant pastor at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Bishop Franz had made plans for him to attend the School of Canon Law at Catholic University when he was diagnosed with cancer. The seriousness of his illness forced him to take leave of his assignment at the Cathedral parish. He died at the age of 26 on Feb. 9, 1955 at his parents' home in Kinsley.

Bishop Franz celebrated the funeral at St. Nicholas Church on Feb. 14. Among the mourners were 88 priests and 16 seminarians from Conception Seminary in Conception, Mo. Priests from the Kansas province were joined by others from dioceses in Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Colorado. Burial was in the parish cemetery.

On Dec. 6, 1960, the feast of St. Nicholas, Bishop Forst dedicated the school gymnasium at Kinsley as the Father Tasset Memorial Gymnasium.

Father Robert Herklotz, pastor, offered these words: "St. Nicholas Parish is happy to honor the memory of Father Maurice Tasset by naming this building the Father Tasset Memorial. Every priest builds a memorial by his work among his people. But so short was Father Tasset's career in the vineyard, he did not have that opportunity. For him, then, has St. Nicholas Parish built the Father Tasset Memorial."
(AR 12-2-60)