

**March 1, 1963**

**Father Francis Uhrich**



Father Uhrich was born March 4, 1888, in Elsass, South Russia. He was ordained for the Wichita Diocese on June 10, 1923, at Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis by Archbishop (later Cardinal) John J. Glennon.

All of his pastoral assignments were in parishes in the Dodge City diocese.

Following his ordination, he was named assistant at St. Joseph, Ellinwood, (July-Dec. 1923). Father Uhrich was appointed administrator at St. Boniface, Sharon, in December of 1923 and named pastor there the following June. After leaving Sharon in 1927, he served in the following pastorates: St. Joseph, Beaver, (1927-1937); St. Andrew, Wright, with St. Lawrence, Jetmore, as a mission (1937-1941), and St. Joseph, Liebenthal, (1941-1957).

Father Uhrich was appointed pastor at St. Joseph, Beaver, when the parish was only six years old. He provided a spark in the community and in the decade during which he served as pastor, the parish grew from 49 to 75 families. (AR 10-4-1957)

Father Uhrich retired due to ill health on Oct. 1, 1957. In accepting his resignation, Bishop Franz wrote: "As you retire from active service, you can look back on your many years of faithful service with great satisfaction. May the Lord bless you abundantly for it."

Father Uhrich retired to Great Bend and lived in his home there until his death on March 1, 1963. Bishop Marion F. Forst celebrated his funeral at St. Patrick Church, Great Bend, on March 4, the 75th anniversary of his birth. Burial was in St. Michael Cemetery in Collyer.