

May 12, 1959

Father Arthur Vallve, CMF



Father Vallve was born Jan. 1, 1878, in Altafulla, Spain. He professed as a member of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (the Claretians) Aug. 15, 1897. He was ordained July 15, 1903, in Santo Domingo de la Calzada. After his ordination he was appointed professor at the University of Cervera.

In 1907, he was sent to Mexico, where he was stationed successively in Guanajuato, Puebla, San Hipolito, and Jesus-Maria in Mexico City. He also visited Honduras and gave a series of missions in that country. He was forced to leave Mexico in 1914 because of the revolution.

Father Vallve served as superior of the Claretian Foundation in Dodge City (1914-16). Father John Handly, pastor at Sacred Heart in Dodge City, engaged the Claretians to work among the railroad workers and their families in the Mexican Village. "Father Vallve takes care of the Mexican church and teaches every day in the Mexican school." (*Dodge City Journal*, Sept. 16, 1915)

After leaving Dodge City, he filled various posts as assistant and pastor in the United States. His subsequent assignments took him to Yuma, Ariz.; Washington, D.C.; Colon, Panama; San Marcos, Calif.; Lawrenceville, N.J.; San Antonio, Texas; and Phoenix, Ariz.

Father Vallve died in a rest home in Phoenix on May 12, 1959, at the age of 81. A funeral was celebrated at St. Anthony Church in Phoenix. His body was taken to San Gabriel Mission, San Gabriel, Calif., where a second funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Emeterius de la Rosa, provincial. Burial was in Mission Campo Santo, the cemetery at San Gabriel Mission.