

November 14, 2000

Father Bill Vogel



Father Vogel was born in Wright, Jan. 18, 1923; he attended St. Andrew School. He was ordained to the priesthood at St. Andrew Church by Bishop Carroll on April 20, 1949. He was appointed assistant at St. Mary, Newton, (1949-50), and Blessed Sacrament, Wichita, (1950-51). He served as chaplain at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital and Larned State Hospital, (1951-52).

Father Vogel had the following pastoral assignments in the Dodge City diocese: St. John, St. John, (1952-58); St. Francis Xavier, Seward, (1958-61); Holy Family, Odin, (1961-65); Sacred Heart, Pratt, (1965-74); St. Rose of Lima, Great Bend, (1974-84); St. John, Spearville, (1984-91), with Immaculate Heart of Mary, Windthorst (1990-91); Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dodge City, (1991-94); with St. Stanislaus, Ingalls, (1991); with St. George, Bucklin, (1993-94), and St. Nicholas, Kinsley, with St. Joseph, Offerle, (1994-2000). He served terms as state chaplain for both the Knights of Columbus (1988 and 1989) and the Daughters of Isabella (1992-94 and 1996-2000).

He died of a heart attack while pheasant hunting on Nov. 14, 2000. Bishop Gilmore celebrated the funeral Mass at St. Nicholas Church, Kinsley. Burial was in St. Andrew Cemetery at Wright.

Father Vogel was a beacon of hope to dozens of Vietnamese refugees whom he sponsored and made real their dreams of coming to America. He garnered a nationwide reputation for his assistance. He would say, "Money's no good if you can't share it." (SKR Nov. 19, 2000)

Siblings who entered the religious life were: Father Oscar Vogel, and Sisters Dominica and Jeanette (CSJ).