

March 5, 1958

Father Raymond Woydziak, OSB



Father Raymond (Adolph James) was born June 16, 1883, at Dubuque. He received the Benedictine habit in 1905, and made his solemn profession of vows July 11, 1909. He was ordained June 18, 1912, by Bishop John Ward of Leavenworth at St. Benedict's Church, Atchison.

From the time of his ordination until 1921, Father Raymond taught commercial courses at St. Benedict's College in Atchison. He attended Rubican Business College in St. Louis and Spaulding Business College in Kansas City in the summers. He was also one of the prefects at the college throughout this time.

In 1921, Father Raymond began a long career of pastoral work. He served as assistant at SS. Peter and Paul, Seneca, before being named pastor there the following year. During the years 1931 to 1933, he held posts of assistant pastor at St. Benedict's, Kansas City, Kans., and St. Benedict's, Atchison. He was appointed pastor of St. Louis, Good Intent, from 1933 to 1939.

His health began to fail and after a few temporary assignments he returned to the abbey in 1940. He was troubled with diabetes and poor eyesight and the forced inactivity necessarily galled a man who had been used to active parish work. Still he did not complain. He took an active interest in the happenings at the abbey until the last few weeks of his life when it was necessary for him to remain in bed.

Father Raymond died March 5, 1958, at the age of 74. His nephew, Father Joseph Staudinger, OSB, celebrated the funeral Mass at St. Benedict's Abbey Church. Burial was in the abbey cemetery.