

July 30, 1968

Father Leander Yoest, OFM Cap



Father Leander (Joseph Charles Yoest) was born Aug. 12, 1906, in Pittsburgh, Pa. He entered the Capuchin order and was invested with the habit on July 13, 1927. He was solemnly professed in SS. Peter and Paul Monastery, Cumberland, Md., on July 14, 1931. He was ordained June 13, 1933.

He was assistant at SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Cumberland, from 1834 to 1941 when he was transferred to Kansas. At Sacred Heart Friary, Frontenac, he was given charge of the mission St. Michael, Girard.

From 1942 to 1944, he had residence at St. Fidelis Monastery, Victoria, and served as pastor of St. Ann, Walker. In 1944, he was assigned to the hospice in Herndon, and given charge of Sacred Heart, Atwood, and St. Patrick's, Tully. He then cared for St. John's, and SS. Cyril and Methodius, both outside of Atwood (1946-47).

Father Leander returned to St. Fidelis, Victoria, as an assistant (1947-49), before being named pastor at Sacred Heart, Ness City (1949-51).

In 1951, he was assigned to Sacred Heart, Charleston, W. Va., but he returned to Kansas the following year as assistant at St. Joseph, Hays.

On Sept. 3, 1958, Father Leander suffered a stroke which caused paralysis of the right side and loss of speech. Through rehabilitation, he managed to learn to walk again, though feebly; and to speak again, though haltingly.

He died July 20, 1968, in St. Francis General Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pa., at the age of 59. Father Thomas More, provincial, celebrated the funeral at St. Augustine Church, Pittsburgh. Burial was in the parish cemetery.