

## ExBakersfield Priest Is Killed In Auto Crash

PASO ROBLES (San Luis Obispo Co.), June 28.—Rev. Walter **Nicholson**, 56, assistant pastor of the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Watsonville, and formerly of Bakersfield, was killed instantly in a traffic accident last night on the Shandon Road, 11 miles east of Paso Robles.

Rt. Rev. Monsignor James M. Culleton, chancellor of the Monterey-Fresno Diocese, reported the priest's automobile crashed headon into a truck at the summit of a hill.

Father **Nicholson** was starting out on a two weeks' vacation trip to Southern California, with a stop-over planned in Bakersfield.

Father **Nicholson** served as assistant pastor of the St. Francis Church in Bakersfield three years, and early this year was transferred to Watsonville.

He was born in Tubbercurry, County Sligo, Ireland, and came to the United States over 25 years ago. Church officials said he was ordained 26 years ago.

Surviving are two brothers, Peter and Robert **Nicholson**, both living in Ireland.

The body will lie in state from Monday night at 7:30 o'clock until Tuesday at 10 A. M. in the St. John's Cathedral in Fresno where a high mass of requiem will be celebrated. The rosary will be recited Monday night at 8 o'clock in the cathedral. Burial will be in the Holy Cross Cemetery in Fresno under the direction of Sullivan, Burns & Blair, Funeral Directors.