

Father Hodik Dies at 77

The Rev. Rudolph J. Hodik, 77, former pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Casco for 35 years, died Sunday in a Green Bay nursing home after a long illness.

He had also been pastor of St. Adalbert Slovan all those years.

Born Feb. 2, 1897 in Stangelville, he was ordained a priest in the Green Bay Diocese on May 3, 1924, after studying theology at St. John and St. Paul Seminaries in Minnesota.

During his first assignment in Peshtigo, Father Hodik, a good swimmer, saved two girls from drowning, and received a Carnegie Medal for heroism.

His other assignments were in Norman and Tisch Mills parishes, prior to his Casco and St. Adalbert Slovan appointment on Sept. 14, 1935.

Father Hodik was known as the "Rosary Priest" by his followers. He was a lecturer on religious subjects and visited many foreign countries, giving his speeches and collecting slides of shrines.

During World War II, he was cited for efforts to finance the war via war bond sales, which were high in the Village of Casco.

Father Hodik retired at Sacred Heart Center, Oneida, in 1970. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Order of Foresters and the Blue Army.

Bishop Aloysius Wycislo will be the main celebrant at the concelebrated Mass at the funeral 11 a.m. Thursday in Casco.