



REV. SYLVAN FONDRIEST, OFM, Cap.

Priest Assigned Here For 20 Years Dies

Rev. Sylvan Fondriest, OFM, Cap., who had been assigned to SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church for the past 20 years and was a priest for nearly 44 years, died yesterday at Sacred Heart Hospital. He was 77 years of age.

Father Sylvan had been in ill health several years and became seriously ill in the past several days.

He came to the local church in 1956 as assistant pastor and director of the Third Order of St. Francis. Under his directorship the local fraternity of the Third Order membership increased from 15 to the present number of over 450. He also helped begin the CCD program in the parish.

Father Sylvan was a familiar figure in local hospitals as he visited the sick.

He was born December 22, 1898 in Austria in the Diocese of Trent. His hometown in this country was Dover, Ohio, and his home parish was St. Joseph's Church, Dover.

Father Sylvan attended grade school in St. Mary School, Dennison, Ohio, St. Joseph's High School, Dover; college at St. Fidelis, Herman, Pa.; and St. Fidelis, Victoria, Kan.

He was a student in the School of Theology operated by the Order Friars Minor, Capuchin, in SS. Peter and Paul Monastery from 1929 to 1932 and also at Capuchin College, Washington.

Father Sylvan was invested July 13, 1926, made simple profession of his vows on July 14, 1927, solemn profession on July 14, 1930, and was ordained to the priesthood on June 14, 1932.

Prior to coming to Cumberland, Father Sylvan had the following assignments: 1932-41, assistant at St. Cecilia Church, Rochester, Pa.; 1941-43, assistant at St. Anthony Church, North Rochester; 1943-44, chaplain at an orphanage; 1944-49, assistant at St. Charles Church, St. Louis; 1949-51, was stationed at St. Augustine's Monastery, Lawrenceville, Pa., and was chaplain at Ursuline Academy and instructor of the lay brothers there; 1951-53, chaplain at Mt. Assisi; 1953-55, assistant at Trafford, Pa.; 1955-56, stationed at Sacred Heart Church, Charleston, and was chaplain at hospitals.

His parents were the late Jacob and Adel (Noldin) Fondriest.

He is survived by two brothers, James K. Fondriest and Leo Fondriest, Dover; two sisters, Mrs. C. L. Recla, New Philadelphia, Ohio, and Mrs. C. H. Reynolds, Dover.

Father Sylvan's body will be at SS. Peter and Paul Church for viewing. Hours today will be after the morning mass until 9 p.m. There will be a special mass today at 7:30 p.m.

Mass of the Christian Burial will be celebrated Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at SS. Peter and Paul Church and also Monday at noon in St. Joseph's Church, Dover. Interment will be in Calvary Cemetery, Dover, Monday.

The family requests memorials take the form of contributions to a fund for the education of future priests at St. Fidelis, Herman, Pa.