

The Rev. Maurice J. Tracy

MASON CITY — The Rev. Maurice J. Tracy, 83, of Dubuque, formerly of Mason City, died Friday (April 20, 1990) at Stonehill Care Center, Dubuque. He was the brother of Eugene L. Tracy of Mason City.

Funeral

Mass was held Tuesday at St. Patrick's Church, Dubuque. Burial was in Immaculate Conception Cemetery at Wexford, his first pastorate.

The Egelhof, Casper, Struber Funeral Home, Dubuque, was in charge of arrangements.

Father Tracy was born June 29, 1906, in Belmont to Albert L. and Mabel (Burns) Tracy. He graduated from Clarion High School and moved with his family to Mason City in 1927. He graduated from Loras College in Dubuque in 1928 and took his theological studies at North American College in Rome, Italy. He was ordained on Oct. 25, 1931, by Cardinal Francesco Marchetti-Selvagiani in the chapel of the German College, Rome. Upon graduation in 1932, he received the degree of S.T.L. Father Tracy offered his first solemn Mass at Holy Family Church, Mason City, on July 31, 1932.

After ordination, Father Tracy served as assistant to several parishes, including St. Thomas, Webster City; Assumption, Cresco; St. John's, Waterloo; Mount Mercy, Cedar Rapids; St. Mary's, Waucoma; and St. Patrick's, Dubuque. While at Mount Mercy he was chaplain and professor at the college from 1936 to 1947, and also taught modern history to the military cadets at Coe College in Cedar Rapids.

From 1947 until he retired, Father Tracy had the following pastorates: Wexford, St. Patrick's, Watkins; Our Lady of Lourdes, Lourdes; and Sacred Heart, Grundy Center. During his early retirement he lived at Sacred Heart, Oelwein, and served as chaplain at Mercy Hospital there.

In 1982, before moving to Stonehill, Father Tracy donated his personal library of over 7000 volumes to Christendom College in Front Royal, Va. The collection of theology, philosophy and classical literature reflected his then-76 years as student, priest, teacher, lecturer and writer.

Father Tracy is survived by his brother, Eugene, Mason City; a sister, Elizabeth Allen, Kansas City, Mo.; and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother.



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