

Former Assumption pastor, Rev. Francis Blase, dies

Rev. Francis H. Blase, former pastor at Assumption Church, passed away at the Regia Cleri home for retired priests in St. Louis on Friday, January 14. He was in his 74th year.

Born in St. Louis, Father Blase was graduated from Kenrick Seminary in 1941. He became pastor at Assumption in April of 1956 and left in the summer of 1963.

Among his many accomplishments while in New Haven were to finish building the rectory, putting a new slade roof on the church, painting the interior of the church for the first time, widening Maiden Lane and putting up a parking lot where the old church and dance hall were.

His greatest accomplishment, perhaps was having the foresight to realize a new school would be needed. Father Blase was able to accumulate a sizeable cash

fund as well as lay solid footwork for the new school.

Services were held for Father Blase at St. Peter's Church in Kirkwood on Tuesday morning. He was buried in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Surviving are four brothers, John J. Jr. of Glendale, Edward F. of Ballwin, Louis F. of St. Louis and Lawrence J. of Kirkwood.