

Rev. John Leonard

The Rev. John Leonard, a native of Ireland and a Catholic priest who served as an associate pastor in Vicksburg twice before retiring here, died Monday, April 28, 2003. He was 82.

The Rev. Leonard was born in Kiltoom, Ireland. He attended high school at Garbally College in Balinasloe, County Galway, Ireland, and attended the seminary at St. Patrick's College, Carlow, Ireland, where he was ordained in 1948.



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He arrived in Mississippi in December 1948 and was assigned as an assistant pastor at St. Mary Catholic Church in Jackson. After that, he served as an assistant pastor at St. Paul in Vicksburg from December 1949 until January 1952. He had other assignments at Our Lady of the Gulf in Bay St. Louis, St. Mary in Yazoo City. He was pastor at All Saints in Belzoni, Our Lady of Vic-

tories in Cleveland, St. Mary in Batesville and St. John the Baptist Mission in Sardis and St. Francis of Assisi in Shaw before returning to St. Paul in Vicksburg as senior associate pastor in September 1986. He also served as Newman chaplain at Delta State College in Cleveland. He retired Sept. 1, 1992.

The Rev. Leonard is survived by five nephews, Edward, Eamon, Patrick and James Leonard and Damlen Kenny; and five nieces, Geraldine Clifford, Terry Casey, Karen Leonard, Mairead Feeney and Ann Marie Leonard.

A wake will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at St. Paul Catholic Church in Vicksburg. A Mass will be at 11 a.m. Friday at St. Paul. Burial will be at the Kiltom Cemetery in County Roscommon, Ireland.