

## Father Leo Janson

The Rev. Father Leo Janson, 90, died Oct. 8, 2006, at St. Vincent Healthcare in Billings.

He was born April 12, 1916, in Philadelphia, the son of William A. and Mary (Barth) Janson. Leo attended schools in Philadelphia, graduating from St. John's School for Boys in 1934.



**FATHER LEO JANSON**

He studied at Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, Ohio, and was ordained a priest March 10, 1945, by Amleto Cardinal Genovata Cicognani. He came to Montana by the request of Bishop William Condon and served the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings. He was chaplain of a German Prison Camp in 1945 in Billings.

The parishes Father Leo Janson served were Holy Family of Great Falls; St. Patrick's Co. Cathedral, Billings; St. Leo's, Lewistown; St. John's Evangelist Church, Baker; St. Joan of Arc's, Ekalaka (he was the first pastor); Immaculate Conception, Fort Benton; St. Luke's, Black Eagle (oversaw construction); St. Joseph, Great Falls and St. Gabriel's, Chinook. He was one of the original schoolteachers at Billings Central High School, an assistant professor at the College of Great Falls, and a marriage counselor for Malmstrom AFB. Father was the Past Chaplain of the State Council of Knights of Columbus. He was a life member of the 3rd Degree Knights of St. Pius Council and 4th Degree Knights of Father Pauwelyn Assembly.

Father Janson loved to travel and traveled around the world several times. He met many friends worldwide. He enjoyed golf and bowling. Father loved to visit his sister Marie McFarlane and her children. He is now reunited with her in heaven.

Father Janson was preceded in death by his brother, William Janson; sisters, Mildred Janson, Dorothy Rauscher and Marie McFarlane; and adopted son, Gale K. Larson. He is survived by adopted son James C. (Sharon) Larson and children, Laura Beth, Sharon and Steve; adopted daughter-in-law Kathy Larson and her son Mike; nieces Anna "Nancy" (Jim) Marlin and Mary Curcio; nephew James McFarlane; and many nieces and nephews in Philadelphia.

Visitation will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, with vigil services at 7 p.m. Wednesday, at the Dahl Funeral Chapel.

Funeral Mass will be 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 12, at St. Pius X Catholic Church with committal in Calvary Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Big Sky Hospice, PO Box 35033, Billings, MT 59107.