



FATHER KELLY was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., April 5, 1851. After his school years he left home and worked in Cleveland, Chicago and Minneapolis. He settled in Minneapolis, learned the plumbing trade there and soon opened his own shop. He was successful in business and an active member of Holy Rosary Parish where he was president of the Holy Name Society. At the age of thirty-six he heard the call of the Master and entered the Dominican Order at St. Rose, Kentucky, where he took his first vows on August 4, 1888. On All Saints' Day, 1892, he was ordained to the priesthood at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio. After a short time at St. Dominic's Church, Denver, Colorado, he was given an assignment to St. Patrick's Church, Columbus, Ohio. In 1895, he took up the duties of Chaplain in the Ohio State Penitentiary where he labored for twenty-seven years. Great difficulties beset his work in the beginning but Father Kelly met them with a strong will and accomplished wonders in the betterment of conditions for the prisoners. When poor health forced him to give up his post he had succeeded in providing a Catholic chapel building and a fine library for the use of the prisoners. He was instrumental in the establishment of a prison school. The real success of his work, however, lay in the graces and blessings he brought to the men under his care. Many were brought back to the practise of their religion, numbers converted, and an untold amount of good wrought through the efforts of the holy priest. He established a Holy Name Society among the men which he took pride in designating as the most flourishing in the diocese of Columbus. His genial disposition and understanding heart made him a real friend of the prisoners. The lasting effect of his work among them is attested by the letters and visits of his boys after their release to show their appreciation and gratitude. His years of experience made him intimately acquainted with prison conditions and he was recognized as an authority in matters of discipline and reform.

For the past ten years or so, Father Kelly has been at Holy Rosary Priory, Minneapolis, forced by his advanced years to a