

**✠ REV. FRANCIS VINCENT DI MICHELE, O.P. ✠**

On February 21, 1936, the Reverend Francis Vincent di Michele, O.P., was called to his eternal reward after thirty-six years of faithful service in the sacred priesthood of God.

Father di Michele was born in Potenza, Italy, on June 2, 1876. He was the son of John and Mary Josephine di Michele. While he was still an infant, the di Michele family emigrated to New York City. There Father di Michele received his elementary education at St. Columba's parochial school. Having been graduated from St. Columba's, he attended St. Francis Xavier's High School and College. He answered his vocation to the religious life when he entered the Novitiate of the Dominican Order at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Ky. There he received the habit on October 10th, 1893; there too, one year later did he make his religious profession. During the next five years, as a religious cleric of the Dominican Order, he pursued the courses of Philosophy and Theology at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio. On Sept. 28, 1899, he was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Martinelli, then the Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

Father di Michele's first assignment was at St. Vincent Ferrer's Convent, New York City, where he labored for ten years until he was changed to St. Catherine's Church of the same city. In 1914 he was appointed to Aquinas College, Columbus, Ohio, the following year to St. Raymond's Church, Providence, R. I., and the next year to Holy Name Church, Philadelphia, Pa. In 1921 he was appointed pastor of Holy Name Church, Valhalla, N. Y. Here he remained to labor in the apostolate until God called him to his reward.

When he died at St. Agnes' Hospital, White Plains, N. Y., his four sisters and three brothers were present at his death bed.

On Monday, Feb. 24th, the solemn requiem Mass for the repose of Father di Michele's soul was celebrated at Holy Name Church, Valhalla. The Very Rev. Patrick A. Maher, O.P., was the celebrant, and Fathers J. A. Shiel, O.P., and G. A. Gavin, O. P., were the assisting deacon and subdeacon. Father M. J. Foley, O.P., delivered a glowing eulogy as a final tribute to his beloved brother in St. Dominic. Among the many clergy present in the sanctuary was the Very Rev. Dean Crowley, the local rural dean.

To Father di Michele's survivors, his beloved parents, his four sisters and three brothers, the *Dominicana* extends its sincerest sympathy.

May his soul rest in peace.

Q.M.G.

✠ **VERY REV. DANIEL RAYMOND TOWLE, O.P., P.G.** ✠

On February 27th, less than a year after the celebration of his golden jubilee as a priest, death brought to a close the truly apostolic life of Father Daniel Raymond Towle. He was born in New York City on October 9th, 1857, the eldest of nine children. Having received his early education in the public schools of New York City, he then attended Saint Gabriel's Academy of the same city.

After his year of noviceship at Saint Rose's Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, he made his profession on February 25th, 1877, to Father Egan, then the prior of that convent. His priestly studies were made at Saint Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio. Then fifty years ago last July 19th, Father Towle was ordained by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Watterson. His was the first of many large classes of priests which the Dominican province of Saint Joseph's was to know within the next half century.

He began his great work as a priest when he was assigned to the mission band which operated throughout the Dakotas, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois. His thirty odd years in this work of pioneering apostolicity were honored by the Provincial Chapter of 1909. This congress of the Fathers electors petitioned the Master General to give Father Towle the title *Preacher General*, which tribute was readily granted. For the last thirteen years of his life, Father Towle was the chaplain of the Dominican Monastery at Summit, New Jersey.

On Saturday morning, February 29th, 1936, the solemn funeral services for the repose of Father Towle's priestly soul were performed. The Rev. W. J. O'Leary, O.P., his classmate, was the celebrant, and Fathers W. A. Marchant and M. J. Foley, his brothers in Saint Dominic, assisted as deacon and subdeacon. Father V. C. Donovan, O.P., preached an inspiring eulogy to Father Towle's sorrowing friends who thronged to St. Antoninus Church.

*Dominicana* offers to his brother, Rev. Felix Towle, and to all his surviving relatives, its profound sympathy. W.J.B.