

## ✠ REV. JOHN ALOYSIUS SHEIL, O.P. ✠

Father Sheil was born on Nov. 13, 1873, in County Cavan, Ireland, the son of Owen Sheil and Mary Mahon Sheil. His schooling was obtained in Waterbury, Conn., whither his family had moved. In 1895 he entered the novitiate at St. Rose's and was professed on Oct. 10, 1896, by the Very Rev. Wm. Quinn, O.P., Prior. After philosophy at St. Rose's and theology at St. Joseph's, Father Sheil was ordained to the priesthood at St. Joseph's on Oct. 10, 1901, by the Most. Rev. Henry Moeller, D.D., then Bishop of Columbus.

In 1903, he was assigned to St. Thomas', Zanesville, becoming Pastor in 1911 and remaining there until 1917, when he became sub-Prior at St. Louis Bertrand's, Louisville. From 1918 until 1928, he was a member of the Eastern Mission Band. Then, after two years at St. Mary's, New Haven, he was made head of the Eastern Mission Band in 1930, and Procurator of the Province. Following an assignment at Holy Rosary Priory, Minneapolis, Father Sheil had been for the last five years Pastor of Holy Name Parish, Valhalla, N. Y. On Jan. 7, 1941, on his return from taking the parish census, Father Sheil died suddenly from a heart ailment from which he had long suffered.

On Jan. 10, after an all-night vigil loyally kept by the Holy Name Society beside Father Sheil's body, a Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Matthew L. Heagen, O.P., with the Rev. W. J. McLaughlin, O.P., Deacon, and the Rev. Thomas F. Conlon, O.P., Subdeacon. The eulogy was delivered by the Rev. E. J. O'Toole, O.P. Present at the Mass were the Most Rev. John J. Murray, D.D., Archbishop of St. Paul, the Very Rev. T. S. McDermott, O.P., Provincial, and members of the diocesan clergy and the Dominican Order. Father Sheil was laid to rest in the Dominican plot of All Souls' Cemetery, Pleasantville, N. Y.

He was indeed, in the words of one of his eulogists, "an accomplished and effective speaker, a noble priest and generous friend, known for his devotion to his fellow-priests." By constant reading he had become a learned man with a broad field of knowledge. Withal he remained humble and docile, and will be remembered by the many souls with whom he came in contact in his missionary labors.

To Father Sheil's brothers, Eugene and James Sheil of New Haven, Conn., and Pittsfield, Mass., respectively, and to his sisters the Misses Margaret, Mary and Catherine Sheil, Mrs. Peter B. Lynch and Mrs. E. Vincent Maloney and his sister-in-law, Mrs. Vincent Sheil, of Waterbury, Conn., the Province of St. Joseph extends sincere sympathy. *May he rest in peace.* L.McQ.

✠ **REV. JAMES HYACINTH MARY FOSTER, O.P., S.T.Lr.** ✠

Father Foster was born on Oct. 9, 1884, at Chappaqua, N. Y., the son of John Foster and Ellen Walsh Foster. James, one of eight children, attended school at Chappaqua and Pleasantville. After spending three years at the college of the Dominican Fathers of the Province of Lyons, France, at Hawthorne, N. Y., he received the habit as a member of the Lyons Province on Sept. 2, 1904, at the Immaculate Conception Priory, Rijckholt, Holland, from the hands of the Very Rev. Hyacinth Cormier, O.P., S.T.M., Master General. At that time the Fathers of the Lyons Province had been exiled from France. There, after his profession, Father Foster studied philosophy and theology. On Aug. 26, 1909, he was ordained in St. Stephen's Church, New York City, by the Most Rev. Thomas F. Cusack, Auxiliary Bishop of New York.

After two years of study at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, and at Rijckholt, Father Foster received the degree of Lector in Sacred Theology. From 1911 until 1913 he taught Apologetics and was sub-Novice Master of the professed students at Rijckholt. In 1913, he was transferred to Holy Rosary Convent Hawthorne, N. Y., and assigned to teach at the American Foreign Mission Seminary (Maryknoll), Ossining, N. Y. During 1915-17, Father Foster taught Sacred Scripture and Apologetics at the House of Studies, Washington, D. C., and then spent a year as assistant at Holy Name Parish, Philadelphia.

Following this he spent eight years at St. Rose Priory as Master of Students, Professor, sub-Prior and Lector Primarius. In 1925, he was assigned to the newly-opened House of Studies at River Forest, where he taught Scripture and Apologetics and was sub-Prior. From 1927 until 1929, Father Foster was Pastor of Holy Innocents', Pleasantville, N. Y., becoming in 1929 Prior of St. Catherine of Siena Priory, New York City. It was during his term of office that the beautiful new church of St. Catherine of Siena was begun and completed. He was assigned to St. Vincent Ferrer's New York, before he became Pastor of Holy Name Parish, Kansas City.

During the last four years, Father Foster was Pastor of St. Mary's, Johnson City, Tennessee, whose territory includes twelve counties of upper East Tennessee. He repaired and fitted out old St. Patrick's Church at Greeneville and purchased a house and lot at Elizabethton, remodelling the house as a chapel. Finally, at Kingsport he began St. Dominic's, the town's first Catholic church, now nearly ready for dedication. In addition to this pioneer work, Father