

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF  
THE REVEREND JOHN JEROME DURKIN, O.P.

---



ARCH 7, 1949, marked the Fiftieth Anniversary of Father John Jerome Durkin's ordination to the priesthood. On Thursday March 10, in St. Vincent Ferrer's Church, New York City, Father Durkin observed this occasion by celebrating a Solemn High Mass. He was assisted by the Rev. J. R. Caien, O.P., as deacon, and the Rev. M. P. Hyland, O.P., as subdeacon. The Rev. P. C. Perrotta, O.P., preached the sermon.

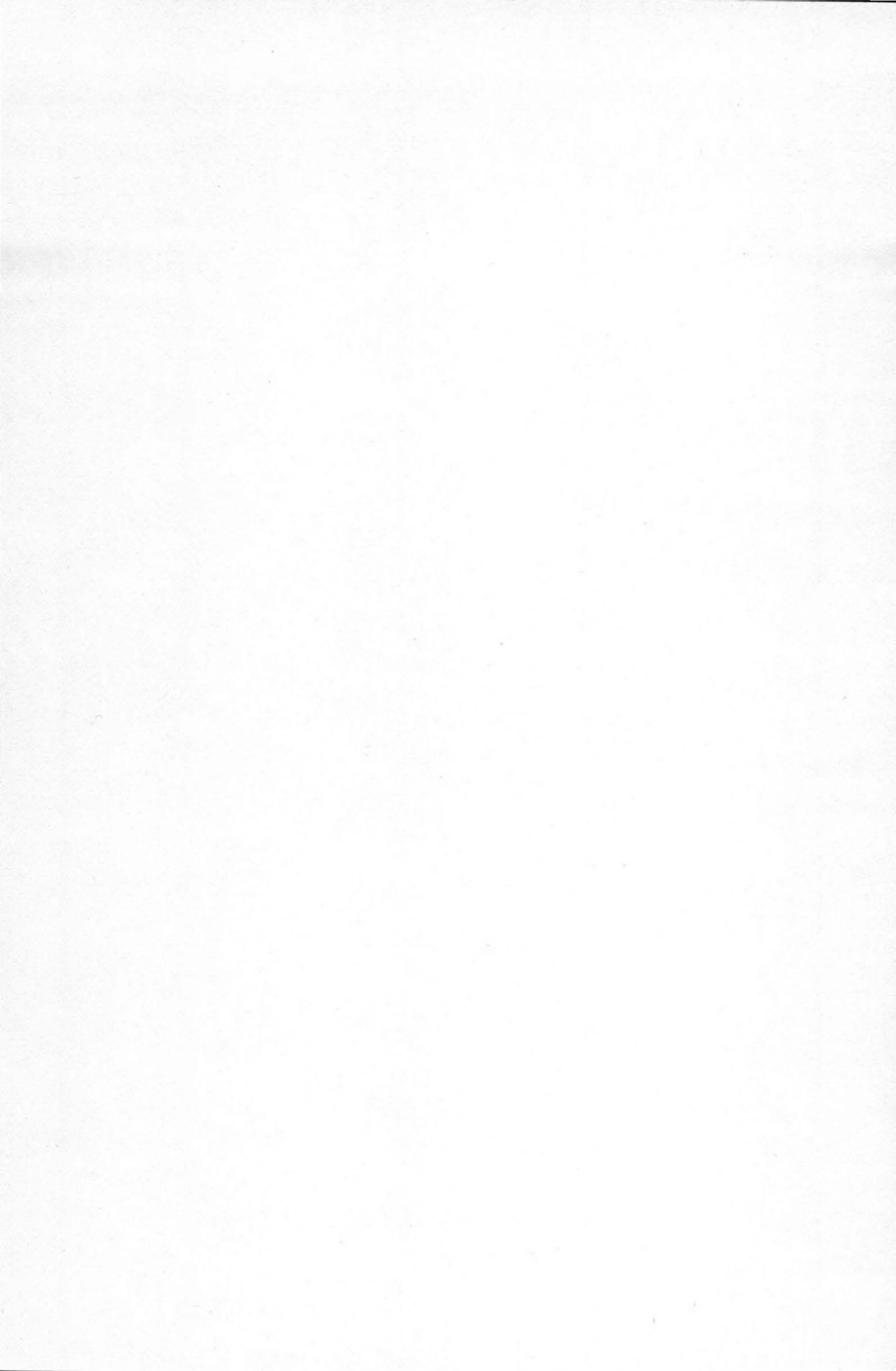
Born in Brantford, Ontario, on November 30, 1869, Father Durkin was one of ten children. His early education was in St. Mary's and St. Peter's Schools in London, Ontario. After high school at London Collegiate, his aspirations toward the priesthood led him to St. Jerome's College in Kitchener, Ontario, where he completed his philosophical studies. After attending the Grand Seminary at Montreal for a time, he entered the Order of Preachers, which had already received four of his first cousins into its ranks. At St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Ky., he received the habit in January, 1895. After simple profession on January 15, 1896, he went first to St. Joseph's Priory, then because of ill health to Holy Rosary Parish in Minneapolis to complete his theological studies privately.

His ordination at the hands of Most Rev. John A. Watterson, Bishop of Columbus, Ohio, took place on March 7, 1899, in the Cathedral at Columbus. First assigned to St. Peter's Parish, Memphis, Tennessee, Father Durkin in 1902 took up his work at St. Vincent Ferrer's Church in New York City. Here he remained till 1924, doing outstanding work in the advancement of the fine parochial and Sunday schools already established there.

In 1918, he was assigned to the Eastern mission band. From 1926 till 1930, he assisted in the parish work at Holy Name Church, Philadelphia, as well as occasionally sharing in the work of the mission band. The years from 1930-1938, spent at St. Dominic's in Washington, were devoted to the same type of work. Finally, in 1938, after the strenuous labors of preaching and the parish ministry, Father Durkin was given the less arduous assignment of chaplain to the Dominican Sisters of the Sick Poor, St. Joseph's Con-



REVEREND JOHN JEROME DURKIN, O.P.



vent, 170 East 210th Street, New York City. Here he has spent the last eleven years, continuing his priestly life and example for the good of this Community.

*Dominicana* extends its sincere good wishes to Father Durkin on the completion of the fifty fruitful years of his priesthood.