

GOLDEN JUBILEE
OF
THE VERY REVEREND
JOHN BERCHMANS LOGAN, O.P., P.G.

On August 21, 1952, Father John Berchmans Logan celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the sacred priesthood at St. Mary's Church, New Haven, Connecticut, where he is a member of the community. Father Logan offered a Low Mass of Thanksgiving in the Church on the morning of the anniversary. The public observance of the Golden Jubilee was held later in the morning with a Solemn Mass celebrated by the Very Rev. E. E. Hollohan, O.P., sub-prior of St. Mary's, assisted by the Very Rev. R. L. Rumaggi, O.P., P.G., as deacon, and Bro. John Dominic Logan, O.P., grand nephew of the Jubilarian, as subdeacon. The Very Rev. T. F. Conlon, O.P., P.G., preached the sermon. His Excellency, the Most Reverend Henry J. O'Brien, D.D., Bishop of Hartford, presided at the Mass, which was attended by a large delegation of Dominicans and local clergy. Mayor Celantano of New Haven headed the civic dignitaries who came to honor Father Logan by their presence at the Mass. Later a banquet was held in St. Mary's Hall for the assembled guests.

Father Logan was born in New Haven, Connecticut, on December 9, 1878, the son of the late John and Mary Murray Logan, both natives of Ireland. He attended Hillhouse Grammar School in New Haven, and later Hillhouse High School. Realizing that he was gifted with a Dominican vocation, he entered the novitiate at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, receiving the habit on September 10, 1897. There, in the following year, he made his profession in the Order of Preachers on October 4. He pursued the prescribed courses in philosophy at St. Rose and afterwards at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio, where he was ordained to the holy priesthood on August 21, 1902, by the Most Reverend Henry Moeller, Bishop of Columbus, later Archbishop of Cincinnati.

After completing his course of studies, he began service as a parish priest with assignments at St. Antoninus, Newark, New Jersey, where he was subprior, St. Catherine of Siena's, New York City, Holy Name, Kansas City, Missouri, and St. Patrick's, Columbus,



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Ohio. In 1915, his superiors, recognizing his talent as a pulpit orator, assigned him as a preacher to the mission band. For over fifteen years he was engaged in this distinctively Dominican apostolate, and in the course of this time he preached innumerable parochial missions, novenas, and retreats, with remarkable success, in every part of the East, South, and Midwest. At varying times he was associated with the Eastern, Southern, and Western Mission Bands, with headquarters at Holy Name, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, St. Louis Bertrand's, Louisville, Kentucky, Holy Rosary, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and St. Antoninus, Newark, New Jersey. His health failing, in 1932, Father Logan joined the community at St. Mary's Priory, in his native city of New Haven, to help in the work of the parish, and there he still resides.

In October, 1943, the Capitular Fathers of St. Joseph's Province, in recognition of Father Logan's many years of fruitful preaching activity and in tribute to his distinguished work in the priesthood for over forty years, proposed that Father Logan be made a Preacher General, and the Master General of the Order of Preachers, acceding to their request, bestowed upon him the eminent Dominican degree. Father Logan was granted this great honor at a celebration in St. Mary's Church, New Haven, on September 14, 1944, which was attended by the late Bishop of Hartford, the Most Reverend Maurice F. McAuliffe, and his Auxiliary Bishop, the Most Reverend Henry J. O'Brien. The degree was conferred by the Provincial of St. Joseph's Province, the Very Reverend T. S. McDermott, O.P., in the presence of a large congregation of Dominican and diocesan clergy, and Father Logan's family and friends, who filled St. Mary's Church for this joyous event.

Father Logan, who has been blind for the past five years, is still active in the performance of his priestly functions. Despite his infirmities, he possesses a Papal Indult which allows him to celebrate Mass every morning privately, with the assistance of another priest. He hears confessions regularly in St. Mary's Church, and assists as well as he can in the activities of the parish and priory. A beloved member of his community, Father Logan has earned the admiration and esteem of his fellow Dominicans for his life of complete dedication to the highest ideals of the religious priesthood, and for his indomitable courage and perfect patience in the face of many years' illness.

Dominicana congratulates Father Logan on this glorious occasion of his Golden Jubilee, and prayerfully wishes him many more years of fruitful service in the sacred ministry.