

† THE REVEREND RICHARD GEORGE FERRIS, O.P. †

Death came very suddenly to Father Ferris on Pentecost Sunday, June 1, 1952, at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky. He was the victim of a heart attack. His untimely end was a great shock to all, since he was apparently in good health up to the moment of his death. He was forty-seven years old.

Father Ferris was born in Yonkers, New York, on February 16, 1905. As a youth he attended Sacred Heart Grammar School in Yonkers. Later he received his high school and college education at St. Lawrence College, Mount Calvary, near Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Before entering the Dominican Order, he made preparatory studies at Providence College. He received the habit on September 8, 1925, at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, and after a year's novitiate made his Simple Profession in the Order of Preachers. He studied philosophy for three years at the Dominican House of Studies, River Forest, Illinois, and then went to St. Joseph's, Somerset, Ohio, for his first year of theology. The remaining years of theology were spent at the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D. C. Father Ferris was ordained to the holy priesthood on May 20, 1932, at St. Dominic's Church, Washington, D. C., by the Most Reverend Michael J. Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore.

In 1933, at the end of his theological course in Washington, Father Ferris was granted the degree of Lector of Sacred Theology. For two more years he did graduate work in theology at the Catholic University of America, and in 1936, the University awarded him the Licentiate in Sacred Theology. Subsequently he was Professor of Church History and Patrology for a year at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, and for the next two years he taught the same subjects at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio. Father Ferris was a splendid professor and a masterful historian. His former students testify to the vibrant quality of his teaching, and to his ability to animate and vitalize the annals of ages past.

Father Ferris began his years in parish work at Holy Trinity Church, Somerset, Ohio, in 1938. After a year he was assigned to St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky. 1942 marked the beginning of his parochial ministry at St. Louis Bertrand's Church, Louisville, Kentucky, after which he returned to St. Rose, where he remained until his death. In recent years he had become an eminent figure among the Catholic people at St. Rose, and he was known and loved by everyone in the parish. His tireless work, especially among the

young people of St. Rose, in spiritual, social, and athletic affairs, was truly remarkable. He was a very successful preacher, and he was often in demand as an occasional speaker at functions in various parts of Kentucky. The memory of this learned, yet simple priest, will remain long in the hearts of all those who came under his sacerdotal ministrations. Father Ferris dearly loved St. Rose, and the people of St. Rose loved and revered him.

On Monday afternoon, June 2, his body was brought to St. Rose where it lay in state until the funeral on Wednesday morning. During this time the Psalter was recited continuously beside the bier by the Fathers and Brothers of St. Rose. On June 4, the Solemn Mass of Requiem was offered by the Very Rev. C. A. Musselman, O.P., Prior of St. Rose. The deacon of the Mass was the Rev. G. C. Reilly, O.P., Professor at the Catholic University in Washington, and the subdeacon was the Rev. J. B. Briggs, O.P., of St. Louis Bertrand's, Louisville, Kentucky. The Very Rev. J. J. McLarney, O.P., Prior of St. Joseph's in Somerset, Ohio, delivered the eulogy. The delegation of local clergy was headed by Monsignors Gettlefinger and Willet. Present also were representatives of the several communities of Sisters in the vicinity of Springfield. The Church was thronged with parishioners who turned out in great numbers in tribute and fond farewell to Father Ferris whom they held in such high esteem. Burial took place in the community cemetery at St. Rose.

To Father Ferris' brothers, and to his bereaved relatives and friends, *Dominicana* offers heartfelt condolences. *May his soul rest in peace!*



† THE REVEREND PETER ALEXIS CASTEROT, O.P. †

Father Casterot died on June 28, 1952, at St. Clare's Hospital, New York City, after a long illness, at the age of eighty-one. He had been a Dominican for sixty-three years and a priest for fifty-eight years.

Father Casterot was born at Lourdes, France, on June 18, 1871, the third of seven children of Severin and Jeanne Marie Darron Casterot. He was a distant relative of St. Bernadette. He attended the grammar school at Lourdes, and the Apostolic School of the College de la Grand Maison at Poitiers. On August 19, 1888, he received the