

GOLDEN JUBILEE

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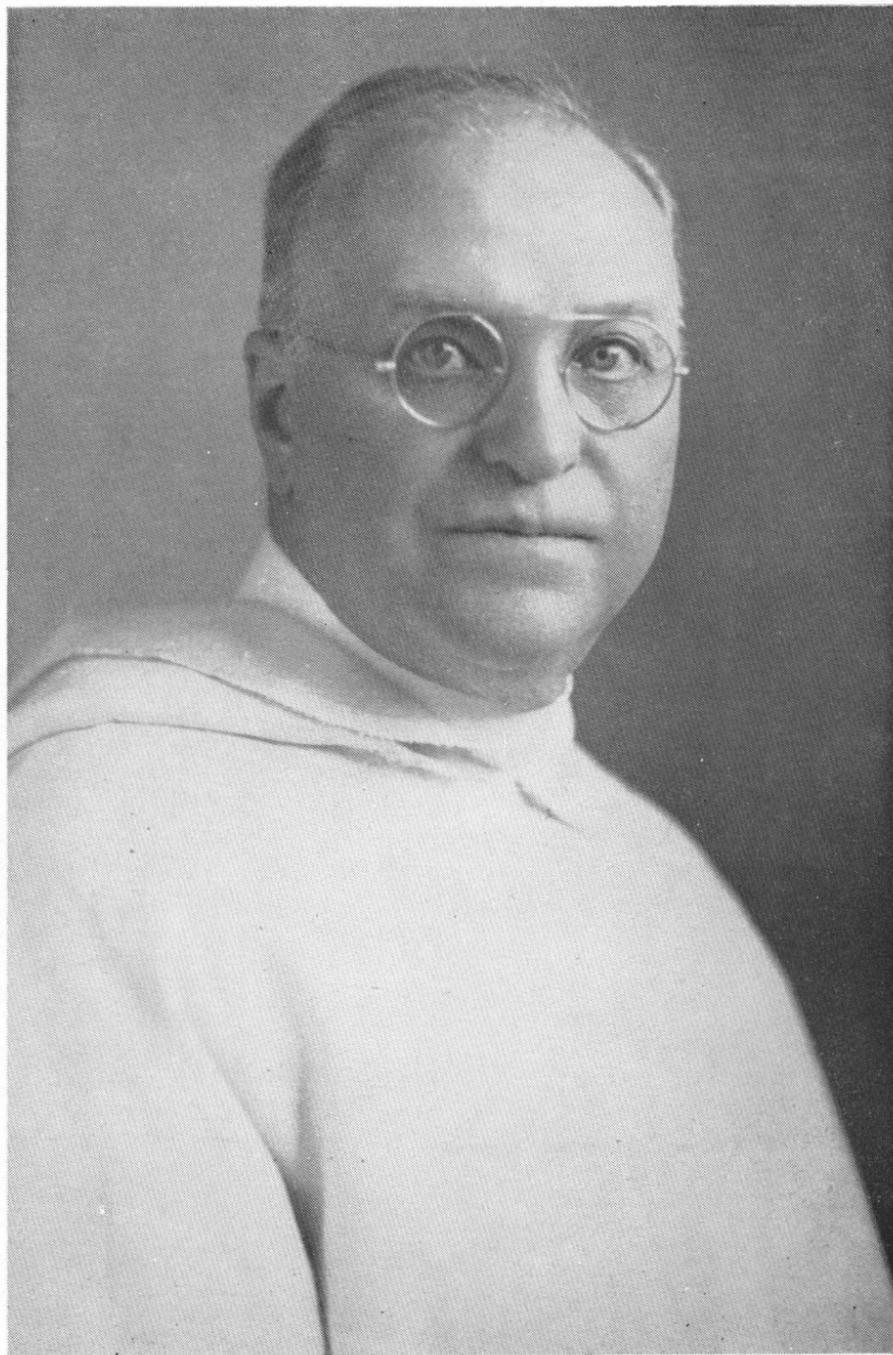
THE REVEREND OCTAVE DAMIAN PARENT, O.P.



JULY 22, 1954 marked the joyful occasion of Father Octave Damian Parent's Fiftieth Anniversary of ordination to the sacred priesthood. The Golden Jubilee was commemorated quietly on Saturday, July the third, when the Jubilarian celebrated a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving at the Dominican Sisters' Convent of Mount St. Mary-on-the-Hudson, Newburgh, New York, where Father Parent is chaplain. Fellow-Dominican priests and Sisters attended the Mass, and paid tribute to Father Parent's half-century of devoted priestly endeavor.

A native of Canada, Father Parent was born in Sainte Flavie, Matane County in the province of Quebec, on January 1, 1880, one of eight children of Francis Xavier and Sophronia Drapeau Parent. Brought to the United States in early youth, he attended Saint Ann's Grammar school, Fall River, Massachusetts. He received his high-school education at Nicolet College, Nicolet, Canada, and graduated from St. Dunstan's College, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, before his entrance into the Dominican Order. On November 16, 1898, he was clothed with the habit of the Order at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, and after a year's novitiate, he made Simple Profession into the hands of the Very Reverend William Quinn, Prior of St. Rose. Subsequent to his profession in the Order of Preachers, he began his course in philosophy there at St. Rose, completing it at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio, where he spent three additional years in the study of theology. He was ordained to the sacred priesthood at Somerset on July 22, 1904, by the Most Reverend James J. Hartley, Bishop of Columbus.

Following the customary post-ordination course of theological studies at the House of Studies in Washington, D. C., Father Parent was appointed, in 1906, to the faculty of philosophy at the Dominican Studium in Somerset, Ohio. He taught there for four years, after which he began service as a parish priest with assignments at St. Vincent Ferrer's, New York City, St. Louis



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Bertrand's, Louisville, Kentucky ; Holy Name, Kansas City, Missouri ; and St. Patrick's in Columbus, Ohio.

In April of 1926, Father Parent was named procurator at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky. It was there, on July 22, 1929, that he celebrated his Silver Jubilee of ordination to the priesthood, amidst the felicitations of his fellow-Dominicans, relatives, and friends.

The second quarter-century of Father Parent's exemplary priestly life found him engaged once again in the parochial ministry, serving in the various Dominican parishes in the east, mid-west and southern parts of the country: St. Louis Bertrand's, Louisville, Kentucky; Blessed Sacrament, Madison, Wisconsin; St. Raymond's and St. Pius' in Providence, Rhode Island. Ever an edifying son of St. Dominic, Father Parent excelled as a parish priest and won many friends for Christ, wherever he labored, by his tireless industry and joyous spirit. For the past several years, Father Parent has occupied the post of chaplain at the Dominican Sisters' Motherhouse of Mt. St. Mary-on-the-Hudson, Newburgh, New York, where he continues his life of complete dedication to the highest ideals of the religious priesthood.

Dominicana is privileged to offer its sincere congratulations to Father Parent on this happy occasion of his Golden Jubilee, and prayerfully wishes him many more years of fruitful service in the sacred ministry.