

**✠ THE REVEREND THOMAS PATRICK DOWD, O.P. ✠**

On Wednesday morning, July 17, 1957, in St. Peter's Church in Memphis, Tennessee, Father Thomas Patrick Dowd offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the last time in his life. Less than an hour later, he died of a sudden and unexpected heart attack. Father Dowd had seemed to be in good health and had had no previous attacks. He was 58 years of age.

Thomas Patrick Dowd was born in Muskegon, Michigan on December 21, 1898. He received his elementary education in St. Andrew's parochial school and Central Catholic High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. His collegiate studies were made at Providence College in Rhode Island. He entered the Dominican Order at St. Joseph's Priory in Somerset, Ohio, where he made his first Profession of vows as a Friar Preacher on August 19, 1925. He completed his philosophical studies at the House of Studies in River Forest, Illinois and his theological training at the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D. C. He was ordained a priest in the Church of St. Dominic in that city by Archbishop Michael J. Curley of Baltimore on June 15, 1931.

After completing another year of Theology, Father Dowd was assigned to do parish work at St. Vincent Ferrer Church in New York City where he remained until 1933. The Midwest next claimed his services when he was sent to Holy Rosary Church in Minneapolis from 1933 to 1935 and Madison, Wisconsin's Blessed Sacrament parish from 1935-1936. After working for a year at St. Mary's Dominican parish in New Haven, Connecticut, Father Dowd was assigned to the parish attached to St. Rose Priory in Springfield, Kentucky, where he remained from 1937 until 1945. In that year Father Dowd was sent to St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio, and did parochial work there for the next seven years. In 1952, he returned once again to the first house of the Province, St. Rose Priory, to which house he was assigned at the time of his death. Besides helping with the parish work at St. Rose, Father Dowd gave his services to many parishes in the area, and assisted the chaplains at nearby Army Camps. At the time he was stricken, Father was acting as an assistant to the pastor of St. Peter's Dominican Church in Memphis. During the short two-month period he had been working in the parish, Father Dowd had endeared himself to the people and had gained some renown as a preacher in the area. How fitting that this priest who had spent himself in the parochial work of our Province should

go to his Eternal Reward still actively engaged in that work!

On Wednesday afternoon, July 17th, the body of Father Dowd was laid in state in the sanctuary of St. Peter's Church. The Honor Guard of the Knights of Columbus was present during the recitation of the Office of the Dead at 8 P.M. The Serra Club and other members of the laity then recited the Rosary. Numbers of the faithful visited the Church to pay their respects to Father Dowd and a great number were present at the Solemn High Requiem Mass on Thursday morning as was a large group of diocesan priests from the area. The Very Rev. Bertrand J. Johannsen, O.P., Superior and Pastor of St. Peter's, was the Celebrant and the Very Rev. Frederick A. Gordon, O.P., P.G. and the Rev. Bernard G. Schneider, O.P. were Deacon and Subdeacon, respectively. The Very Rev. Bernard C. Werner, O.P., P.G. preached the eulogy.

Father Dowd's body was then removed to Springfield, Kentucky where a Solemn Mass of Requiem was celebrated in St. Rose Priory Church by the Very Rev. C. A. Musselman, O.P., Prior of St. Rose. The Deacon of the Mass was the Very Rev. John Dominic Walsh, O.P., P.G., Pastor of St. Raymond's Church, Providence, Rhode Island, and the Subdeacon, the Rev. Edward E. Holohan, O.P., Pastor of St. Andrew's Church, Cincinnati and a classmate of the deceased. Another classmate, the Rev. Urban Nagle, O.P., Ph.D., Chaplain at St. Mary of the Springs, Columbus, Ohio, preached the eulogy. Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph D. Gettlefinger, Pastor of St. Augustine's Church, Lebanon, Kentucky, and other members of the diocesan clergy were present. Father Dowd was laid to rest in the community cemetery at St. Rose.

To Miss Eleanor Dowd and to Edward, Paul, William and Bernard Dowd, *Dominicana* offers its sympathy on the loss of their beloved brother. *Requiescat in pace.*

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✠ THE REVEREND JOHN PAUL McDERMOTT, O.P. ✠

Many years ago, while still a young priest, Father John Paul McDermott was stricken with a fatal, wasting disease of the nervous system. He was told by doctors that he only had a short time to live. However, with the help of Almighty God and the constant and solicitous care of the Fathers and Lay-Brothers of his priory, he lived on, patiently bearing the cross that was his, doing all that his failing body would allow, until July 1, 1957