

OBITUARY

THE VERY REV. DAMIEN M. SAINTOURENS, O. P.

Sunday, September 26th, was a sad day for the Dominican nuns of the Perpetual Rosary, for on that date Père Saintourens, their zealous and saintly founder passed from this life.

Père Saintourens was born in France, May 3rd, 1835. He studied for the holy priesthood and was ordained in 1861. Seven years later he asked to be received into the Order of St. Dominic and made his profession on October 26th, 1869.

His devotion to the Most Holy Rosary, inspired by St. Dominic's zeal for the Mother of God, led him to found communities for its perpetual recitation. After inaugurating the work in France he travelled to this country, then went to Canada and then to the West Indies. After a short stay in America, he asked to be transferred to the Province of St. Dominic, in Canada, in order to better be able to carry on his labors in the New World.

His first foundation of the Perpetual Rosary in this country was made at West Hoboken, N. J., in 1891. In 1900, he established another monastery at Camden, N. J., which became the center whence he directed the propagation of the devotion of his special vocation until the last days of his life. The institution numbers eight monasteries in America.

The Mass of Requiem was celebrated on Wednesday, September 29th, by the Very Rev. Raymond Rouleau, O. P., Provincial of Canada, assisted by the Very Rev. J. A. Hinch, O. P., of Newark, N. J., and Rev. Alexis Casterot, O. P., of New York, as deacon and subdeacon respectively. The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Walsh, Bishop of Trenton, presided at the burial. Rev. Gregory R. Scholz, O. P., of Philadelphia, Pa., delivered the sermon. The body of Père Saintourens was placed in the crypt of the monastery where he died.

Requiem aeternam done ei, Domine.

—Bro. Benedict Dion, O. P.