

by Rev. G. I. Conlan, O. P., and Very Rev. J. A. Cowan, O. P. The sermon was preached by the Very L. F. Kearney, O. P., S. T. M., ex-Provincial. The blessing before the burial was pronounced by the Provincial, Very Rev. Raymond Meagher, O. P. There were present in the sanctuary many of the secular clergy and Dominicans from the various houses. The Fathers were assisted in the singing of the Mass and the burial service by the Novices of the House of Studies. Interment was made in Mount Olivet Cemetery, Washington, D. C. Requiescat in pace.

—Bro. Ambrose Smith, O. P.

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### **THE VERY REV. JOHN PIUS MURPHY, O. P., P. G.**

The Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus has sustained a sad loss in the death of the Very Rev. John Pius Murphy, O. P., P. G., ex-Vicar General of the Dominicans in California and one of the foremost and venerable figures of the Catholic Church on the Pacific Coast. After a brief illness, he died Monday evening, March 28, 1921, at St. Dominic's Priory, San Francisco, in the 61st year of his religious profession.

Father Murphy was born in Quebec, Canada, June 23, 1844. In 1850, he sailed with his parents for California by way of Panama. When still in his boyhood his mother placed him under the care of the Dominican Fathers at St. Dominic's Monastery, Benicia, where he soon developed a love for that great Order and sought the habit of St. Dominic, in 1859, from the hands of the Superior, the venerable Father Vilarrasa. The following year he was sent to France to pursue his clerical studies and in 1868 was ordained priest in England. Upon his return to America he was stationed at the House of Studies, Benicia, Calif., until 1876 when he became the first Prior of the newly-founded Convent of St. Dominic in San Francisco. In 1892 he was made Vicar General of the Congregation of California and fulfilled that position with incessant zeal for sixteen years.

Since 1896 he held the office of pastor of St. Dominic's Church until his death.

"Father Pius," as he was familiarly known, was pre-eminently regarded in both church and civic circles. He was a man of extraordinary strong character and ever a fearless champion and staunch defender of things Catholic. He was an example of an excellent religious, loving his Order and working for it and the Church in word and deed. He was endowed with a remarkable intellect and a singularly retentive memory until the end.

The funeral rites were held March 31, 1921, at St. Dominic's Church, San Francisco, where a Solemn Requiem Mass was sung by the Prior, the Very Rev. J. B. O'Connor, O. P., assisted by the Very Rev. J. R. Newell, O. P., P. G., and the Very Rev. C. V. Lamb, O. P. About sixty of the clergy were in attendance. The remains were taken to Benicia and interred in St. Dominic's Cemetery. Requiescat in pace.

—Bro. Leo Lewis, O. P.

