

OBITUARY

✠ Very Rev. J. R. Heffernan, O. P. ✠

On March 14, 1923, Very Rev. J. R. Heffernan, O. P., died of pneumonia which had resulted from a cold contracted during the burning of St. Antoninus' School. By his death the Church has lost a devoted priest and the Order of St. Dominic a faithful son.

Fr. Heffernan was born in Waterbury, Conn., March 9, 1871. He entered the Dominican Order when twenty-two years of age, and was professed on January 14, 1894, at St. Rose Convent, Springfield, Ky. Having finished the prescribed course of study, he was ordained to the priesthood March 7, 1899, at St. Joseph's Convent, Somerset, Ohio. His early years as a priest were spent on the missions and as assistant in the different Dominican parishes. In the latter part of 1906 he was appointed pastor of St. Peter's Church, Memphis, Tenn. On Jan. 27, 1910, he was elected prior of St. Antoninus' Convent, Newark, N. J., in which office he served two terms. At the expiration of the second term, Fr. Heffernan went to St. Vincent Ferrer's New York City, as pastor and prior. Here he completed the magnificent Gothic edifice, the present St. Vincent Ferrer's. About a year ago he was again elected prior of St. Antoninus'.

Fr. Heffernan was a man of great piety and devotion, each day spending an hour in silent adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. He had a deep love for the liturgy, and the great care he took in carrying out the services of God accounts in no small degree for the large numbers attracted to his church. His kindness and gentleness endeared him to the people, in whose memory he will live long.

The funeral of Fr. Heffernan was held from St. Antoninus' Church on March 16. Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul was celebrated by Rev. J. A. Hinch, O. P., P. G., assisted by Rev. G. I. Conlan, O. P., as deacon, and Rev. J. B. Dawkins, O. P., as sub-deacon. A touching sermon was delivered by the Very Rev. M. J. Foley, O. P., P. G. The Very Rev. Raymond Meagher, O. P., S. T. Lr., gave the absolution. Present at the Mass were Rt. Rev. Bishop Dunn, D. D., of New York City, Rt. Rev. Bishop Murray of Hartford, Conn., and many others of the clergy. Interment was made in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. R.I.P.

—Bro. Ignatius Litzinger, O. P.