

delivered an eloquent tribute to the deceased. The final absolution was given by the Very Rev. Raymond Meagher, O. P., S. T. Lr., LL. D., Provincial. Besides the Rt. Rev. J. A. Floersh, D. D., Bishop of Louisville, there were present in the sanctuary representatives of the various houses of the Order in this Province and many of the secular clergy.

After the Mass the body of Fr. Wilburn was taken to St. Rose, Springfield, Ky., for burial, where interment took place on February 8th. The Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. T. L. Crowley, O. P., a close friend of Father Wilburn. Rev. O. D. Parent, O. P., was deacon, and Rev. L. E. Hughes, O. P., subdeacon. The Novices sang the Mass and chanted the Office of the Dead. As a mark of esteem the banks and business houses of Springfield were closed Tuesday morning. St. Rose Church was crowded by friends from far and near who came to pay their last sad tribute of respect and affection. Burial took place in the Convent Cemetery. To his relatives and friends, the Fathers and Novices of the Province extend their sincere sympathy. May he rest in peace.

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✠ REV. GRATTAN VINCENT CLEARY, O. P. ✠

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N February 5, 1927, the Province of St. Joseph suffered the loss of a zealous missionary and exemplary religious in the untimely death of Rev. Grattan Vincent Cleary, O. P., at St. Joseph's Infirmary, Louisville, resulting from injuries received in an automobile accident which occurred a few miles from Bardstown, Ky., while he with two of his confreres and a friend were enroute to St. Louis Bertrand's Priory, Louisville. At first it was thought that Father Cleary's injuries were not serious but further examination proved otherwise. The Lord called him to his eternal reward on February 5th, a few days after the accident.

Father Cleary was born at Chicago, Ill., on December 23, 1879. At an early age he came to Washington, D. C., with his parents. After completing his preparatory studies at Gonzaga High School of that city he gave ear to the gentle voice of the Master calling him to work in His Vineyard, and decided to cast his lot with the Sons of St. Dominic. Accordingly he sought admission to the Order of Friars Preachers and received the holy habit on December 23, 1901. Upon

completing his year of novitiate, in which he proved himself a studious, hard-working and fervent religious, he was admitted to his first profession, pronouncing the vows of holy religion on December 24, 1902. In August, 1905, the new Dominican House of Studies was completed and opened at Washington, D. C., and Father Cleary was among the first novices assigned to that studium. Having completed his theological studies, he was ordained there on June 24th, 1909. As a young priest, his first assignment was to St. Louis Bertrand's Church, Louisville, Ky., in 1911. His superior, being quick to recognize his ability as an able speaker, assigned him to the Southern Mission Band in 1912, with headquarters at St. Louis Bertrand's. In 1919 he was transferred to the Western Mission Band with Holy Rosary Priory, Minneapolis, Minn., as his residence. In 1924 he returned to the Southern Missions with St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio, as his headquarters. Finally in 1926 he was assigned to St. Patrick's Rectory, Columbus, Ohio, but still laboring on the missions.

On February 7th, a Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul was sung at St. Louis Bertrand's Church in Louisville. His body was then brought to Washington, D. C., where on Wednesday, February 9th, St. Dominic's Church was filled by relatives, friends and parishioners who came to pay their last sad tribute of esteem and affection to their beloved Father Cleary. Besides this representative gathering of the laity there were also present the Right Reverend Thomas Shahan, D. D., of the Catholic University, a large body of priests, among whom were a score of the diocesan clergy, a large number of the Fathers of the Province, and the Novices from the House of Studies. The Rev. R. G. Lyons, O. P., Sub-Prior of St. Louis Bertrand's Priory, was the celebrant of the Solemn Requiem Mass, assisted by the Very Rev. F. B. Gorman, O. P., Prior of St. Louis Bertrand's Priory, as deacon, and the Rev. J. A. Cowan, O. P., of St. Dominic's, as subdeacon. The eulogy was delivered by the Very Rev. V. R. Burnell, O. P., Superior of the Southern Mission Band and classmate of Father Cleary. The final absolution was imparted by the Very Rev. Ignatius Smith, O. P., S. T. Lr., Prior of the House of Studies, Washington, D. C., and interment took place at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Washington, where the obsequies were conducted by the Very Rev. D. J. Kennedy, O. P., S. T. M.

Father Cleary is survived by three brothers, Francis J. and Daniel A. Cleary of Washington, and Owen J. Cleary of Pittsburgh, to whom *Dominicana* extends heartfelt sympathy. Requiescat in pace.