A devoted and zealous son was lost to St. Joseph’s Province, when, on Rosary Sunday 1930, death called Father John Hugh Leonard to his eternal reward. Eighty-three years of age, Father Leonard had spent a half century of that time as a Friar Preacher. Born in Ireland May 1st, 1847, he came to this country while still a young man, and settled in Brooklyn. At the age of twenty-nine the call of the Master came to him and Father Leonard entered St. Rose’s Novitiate in October of 1875. His year of Novitiate successfully passed he was admitted to profession on November 25th, 1876. Transferred to the House of Studies at St. Joseph’s in Somerset, Father Leonard spent the next four years of his Dominican life in the study of the Sacred Sciences, and was ordained to the Priesthood on February 15th, 1880.

To tell the story of Father Leonard’s life is to tell of a career of heroic love and self-sacrifice. From his first assignment in 1881, till the hand of old age caused him to take a long deserved rest, Father Leonard was a tireless worker, a true Dominican and a worthy follower of our Divine Master. Entering upon his apostolic life when the Church in this country was not the shining institution that it is today, Father Leonard underwent all the hardships of a pioneer. Of unlimited zeal, Father Leonard labored well at any task given to his charge, and in the declining years of his life he could look back with perfect contentment upon a ministry filled to the overflow with work well done.

From his first mission to St. Louis Bertrand’s Priory in Louisville, Ky., his various assignments found him stationed at Columbus, Minneapolis, Memphis, Newark and New York. Wherever the name Dominican was known in the United States, there, at one time or the other Father Leonard had labored to fulfill the request of the Master that there “be one fold and one shepherd.” When not engaged in active parish work Father Leonard spent some time preaching on the missions, and serving as chaplain in the Ohio Penitentiary and for the Dominican sisters of Sparkhill and Hartsdale. Truly then is the death of this holy Dominican and zealous priest a severe loss to the Dominican Order and to the Church in the United States.

Blessed with an unassuming disposition, his deep rooted piety was ever a source of admiration for those who knew him. The esteem in which he was held was evident from the large number of priests
Dominicana

present at his funeral. Dominicans from all parts of the East came
to pay their last respects to a departed brother. On October 7th, at
St. Antoninus Church, Newark, N.J., where for three days the body
of Father laid in state, a Solemn Funeral Mass was sung by Father
John U. Cahill, O.P., a cousin of the deceased, assisted by Father
John A. McHugh, O.P. as deacon, and Father Alexius Casterot as
sub-deacon. Burial was in the cemetery of the Holy Sepulchre,
Newark, N.J.

To his many relatives and friends, Dominicana, in the name of
his fellow priests and brothers extends sincere sympathy.

J. Louis Mitchell, O.P.

† REV. JOHN PHILIP VALLELY, O.P. †

The passing from this earthly life of the Reverend John Philip
Vallely, who died suddenly on November 6, 1930, just as he was
leaving the sacristy to say Mass, has been a distinct loss to the Do­
minican Province of St. Joseph in the United States.

Father Vallely was born in Thousand Islands, Canada, on Sept.
16, 1852. His parents moved to a farm near Utica, New York when
he was but a small child. Completing his classical and philosophical
studies in the Franciscan College of St. Bonaventure, Alleghany,
New York, he decided to study for the priesthood in a religious order,
and entered the Dominican Novitiate of St. Joseph’s, Somerset, Ohio
early in 1877. He was professed on Feb. 2, 1878, and having com­
pleted his theological studies he was ordained priest on May 14, 1882.

For his first assignment Father Vallely was sent to St. Vincent
Ferrer’s, New York City in 1883 where he remained until 1887. He
became prior of St. Louis Bertrand’s, Louisville, Kentucky in 1888.
His administration was characterized by progressiveness, gentle but
firm leadership, and above all by the example of what real priestly
zeal for the care of souls should be. During the years from 1892 to
1905, he held several positions, namely, that of subprior of St. Vin­
cent, N. Y., vicar of St. Patrick’s, Columbus, Ohio, assistant and
finally subprior of St. Dominic’s, Washington, D. C. Elected Prior
of St. Rose, Springfield, Ky. in 1905, he remained there until 1908.