It is the sad duty of DOMINICANA to record the death of another devoted son of St. Joseph’s Province. On June 18th, Edward Joachim Cummings, after fifteen years of untiring labor in the vineyard of the master, was called to his eternal reward.

Edward Cummings was born in New York City, on July 28th, 1883. He received his early education in the schools of his native city, and throughout his boyhood life gave every indication of the future that was to be his. At the age of twenty-four the call of the Master, “Come follow Me” was given to him, and on December 2, 1907, he entered the Novitiate of the Dominican Order. After his year of probation was completed he was admitted to profession on December 3, 1908. The next seven years of his Dominican life were spent in the study of Philosophy and Theology, and on May 17, 1916, he was ordained to the priesthood.

As a young priest Father Cummings received his first assignment as chaplain to the Soldiers’ Home in Washington. There his ability as a director of souls was soon manifested and in the years following we find him laboring in the Dominican parishes of Houston, Texas; Youngstown, Ohio; Zanesville, Ohio; and Philadelphia, Pa. Ever a zealous worker he labored well at whatever task was assigned him.

The illness that was finally to cause the death of Father Cummings was of long duration. From the time of his reception his priestly life had been one of suffering. Operated on fifteen months before his fatal illness he had gone to Wildwood to regain his strength, and it was there that God called him unto his own.

Throughout all these years of suffering and physical handicaps Father Cummings never lost his ardent love for souls. His career was marked by a powerful influence over young men, and it is these young men with whom he came in contact who will especially mourn the death of their true friend.

On June 23, a Solemn funeral Mass was sung in the Holy Name Church, Philadelphia, Pa., by the Rev. J. R. Caien, O.P., and a fitting eulogy was delivered by Very Rev. William Noon,
O.P., S.T.M. Present in the sanctuary were thirty fellow priests who came to pay their final respects to a departed brother. Burial was in the Dominican plot at Calvary, N. Y., in a grave next to that of Father Lockingen, the priest under whose guidance Father Cummings entered the Dominican Order.

To his relatives and friends DOMINICANA in the name of his fellow priests and brothers extends sincere sympathy. May he rest in peace. —Louis Mitchell, O.P.

+ REVEREND JAMES FRANCIS COLBERT, O.P. +

HILE on a visit to his sister in Washington, D. C., Rev. James Francis Colbert, O.P., was stricken ill with pneumonia and died at Providence Hospital in the same city on Thursday morning, August 27, 1931. Father Colbert was seventy-three years old. He had passed the fifty-fifth anniversary of his religious profession, and this coming May would have celebrated the golden jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood.

James Colbert was born in Washington, D. C., November 8, 1858. He received his elementary education from the Sisters of St. Dominic’s parish school and from the Jesuit Fathers at Gonzaga High School. In answer to the divine call he entered the novitiate of the Order of Preachers at St. Rose Priory, in Springfield, Kentucky, where he made his religious profession February 7, 1876. His philosophical and theological studies were made at St. Joseph’s Priory, Somerset, Ohio, and he was there ordained priest by Bishop Watterson, May 14, 1882.

Because of his marked ability in the classics he was first assigned to teach Latin and Greek at St. Rose, where he remained for ten years. He was elected Prior of that convent in 1889. His next appointment was as Vicar and Pastor of St. Antoninus Parish in Newark, N. J., which office he filled from 1893 to 1899.