Father Coughlin was born in South Boston, Mass., on Christmas Day, 1887. His father, Daniel J. Coughlin, was born in Boston; his mother, Margaret O’Leary, was born in Bandon, County Cork, Ireland. They were married in Boston, Nov. 26, 1875. Their children were Margaret, Daniel—the future priest, and Annie.

After passing through grammar and high school in Boston, Father Coughlin attended Boston College, and then went to St. Lawrence’s College, Saint-Laurent (near Montreal), Canada. In 1908 he entered the Order of St. Dominic at St. Joseph’s Priory, Perry County, Ohio, where he made his religious profession on October 11, 1909. He studied philosophy and theology at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C., from 1911 to 1917. Father Coughlin was ordained priest May 17, 1916, in the chapel of the House of Studies at Washington by Bishop Thomas J. Shahan, Rector of the Catholic University.

Father Coughlin was a true priest of God, and full of the spirit of his Divine Master. He was ever gentle and kindly, tireless in his zeal for the salvation of souls, unfailing in his love for the Blessed Mother and every living creature, endowed with sense of humor and simplicity of manner. He was stationed for nine years at St. Mary’s, New Haven, where he was twice Sub-prior; seven years at St. Catherine’s, New York; and five years at St. Raymond’s, Providence. Wherever he labored, he was admired and beloved by the people. In 1939, he was stationed at Holy Name, Philadelphia. There he was incapacitated by illness. Shortly after a grave operation, he was sent to St. Rose’s, Springfield, in the hope that the country air might aid him to recuperate. There he spent most of the day in the fields, taking a keen interest in the farm. Father Coughlin was present in choir at the opening of Rosary Devotions on October 1. That night his condition became worse and he received the last Sacraments. The following evening, on the Feast of the Guardian Angels, October 2, Father Coughlin passed to his reward as his brethren, present at his bedside, sang the Salve Regina, confiding to Mary him whose last act of devotion had been in her honor.

The Requiem Mass for Father Coughlin, attended by a large number of his Dominican brethren, was celebrated by the Very Rev. L. P. Johannsen, O.P., Sub-prior, with the Rev. J. B. Hassenfuss, O.P., as Deacon, and the Rev. J. R. Grace, O.P., as Sub-deacon, the
latter having served Father Coughlin’s first Mass twenty-four years before in South Boston. Father Coughlin’s eulogy was delivered by the Very Rev. H. J. McManus, O.P., Prior of St. Rose’s. Father Coughlin was buried in the community cemetery at St. Rose’s.

To Mrs. John H. Glover of Roslindale, Mass., his sister, to Mrs. Harriett Thayer, and to the other members of Father Coughlin’s family, the Province of St. Joseph extend sincere sympathy. May he rest in peace. H.C.