GOLDEN JUBILEE

OF

REVEREND RICHARD JEROME MEANEY, O.P.

The Reverend Richard Jerome Meaney, O.P., of St. Rose’s Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, observed the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood on March 7. The Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated at the Kentucky Priory with the Very Reverend T. S. McDermott, O.P., Provincial of the Province of St. Joseph, presiding.

Father Meaney was born in Louisville, Kentucky, on August 16, 1859, of the late James and Mary Meaney. He received his education at the grammar school of the Xaverian Brothers of Cathedral Parish, at the Dominican School, during night classes at the school at Centre and Walnut Streets, and at the Public School of Architectural Drawing. On the recommendation of the Very Reverend M. D. Lawler, he left Louisville to begin his studies for the secular priesthood at St. Joseph’s College, Bardstown, Kentucky and then at St. Charles’ College, Howard County, Maryland. However, Father Meaney decided to join the Order of Friars Preachers and for that purpose he returned to his native state where he entered St. Rose’s Priory, receiving the Dominican habit from the Very Reverend J. F. Colbert, O.P., on November 25, 1890. He made his simple profession at the same convent on December 5, 1891, and went to St. Joseph’s Priory, Somerset, Ohio, to pursue his theological studies. There he made solemn profession on December 6, 1894, and on March 5, 6 and 7, 1895, he was ordained subdeacon, deacon and priest by Bishop Watterson in St. Joseph’s Church, Somerset.

After spending a year in parochial work at Holy Rosary Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota, Father Meaney became subprior and master of novices at St. Rose’s Priory. He served as prior of the same convent from 1899 until 1902. In that year he was assigned to St. Dominic’s Priory, Washington, D.C., in order to superintend the erection of the College of the Immaculate Conception. Still assigned to St. Dominic’s, he went to St. Patrick’s Church, Columbus, Ohio, in 1905 to build St. Patrick’s High School (now Aquinas College High School). He completed his work in a year and returned to the East to supervise the completion of the chapel of the House of Studies. In December of 1906, he returned to Columbus to organize Aquinas College of which he became the first president. There he remained until 1913, when he was assigned to Holy Trinity Parish and the
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Rosary Press in Somerset, Ohio. During his stay in Columbus and Somerset (until 1920), Father Meaney was an examiner for the parochial schools of the diocese of Columbus.

From 1920 on, Father Meaney was assigned to St. Dominic's Priory, Washington, D. C. (until 1921), and to Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island, where he was professor of the classics and treasurer. In June, 1930, he retired to St. Rose's Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, where he has remained until now.

Dominicana congratulates Father Meaney on the completion of fifty years of generous, priestly service.