THE REVEREND JOSEPH JOHN WELSH, O.P.

The Rev. Joseph John Welsh, O.P., died in El Paso, Texas, on Sept. 18, 1948. His death came as a surprise and a shock to all. Though Fr. Welsh had been ill for the past few years, there was some hope that he was on the road to recovery and would soon return north to resume his teaching duties at the House of Studies in Somerset, Ohio.

Born in Chester, Pa., on March 4, 1891, Father Welsh was one of nine children born to Thomas J. and Mary (O'Donnell) Welsh. Educated in the parochial school of the Immaculate Heart in Chester, Father Welsh attended Roman Catholic High School before entering Aquinas College High School in Columbus, Ohio. He also attended Aquinas College of that city before beginning his Novitiate at St. Joseph's Priory where he received the habit from the Very Rev. F. D. McShane, O.P., on Sept. 16, 1911. After making his religious profession a year later, the young Dominican began a career of studies which would be marked by singular success. Upon completing his course in philosophy and theology at the House of Studies in Washington, Father Welsh was ordained in the Chapel of that House on June 15, 1917 by the Most Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, D.D., then Rector of the Catholic University of America.

The newly-ordained Father Welsh received the degree of Lector in Sacred Theology at the House of Studies in Washington in 1919 and began his teaching career at Providence College, Providence, R. I. In 1922, he was sent to Rome to receive the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the Angelicum. After the degree was awarded in 1924, Father Welsh returned to this country and taught in the various Houses of Studies of the Province until 1939 when he was assigned to St. Thomas' Parish in Zanesville, Ohio. In 1940 he was appointed professor of Sociology at St. Mary of the Springs College in Columbus, Ohio. Returning to the House of Studies in Somerset, he taught Philosophy from 1941 until 1946 when ill health forced him to go to the southwest in an attempt to regain his strength.

In Father Welsh's death, the Province of St. Joseph suffers a loss which will be deeply felt. His unfailing kindness attracted all
who were fortunate enough to know him and there are numberless men and women, both religious and lay, who will testify to the worth of the guidance and advice given in the confessional by Father Welsh. Long associated with and loved by the students of the Province, Father Welsh in death returned to his beloved House of Studies in Somerset and was laid to rest in the Community cemetery there. A Solemn Requiem Funeral Mass was sung on Sept. 22 by his life-long friend, who had also been privileged to give Father Welsh the Last Sacraments, the Rev. Robert P. Carroll, O.P. The Rev. F. B. Gorman, O.P., was Deacon of the Mass with the Rev. C. M. Mulvey, O.P., as Subdeacon. The eulogy was preached by the Rev. J. J. McLarney, O.P. The Most Rev. Michael J. Ready, D.D., Bishop of Columbus, was present in the sanctuary and gave the final absolution at the Mass. Father Welsh's Prior, the Very Rev. J. B. Walsh, O.P., conducted the services at the grave. Over seventy-five priests were present at the obsequies which were attended by Father Welsh's five remaining sisters.

Dominicana, in the name of the Fathers and Brothers, extends sympathy to Father Welsh's relatives and friends. May his soul rest in peace.

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† THE REVEREND JAMES DOMINIC KAVANAUGH, O.P. †


A native of Pakenham, Ontario, Canada, Father Kavanaugh was born on August 5, 1878, one of the twelve children of Edward and Ann Kavanaugh, both natives of Ireland.

Father Kavanaugh received his primary education in the public schools of Devil's Lake, N. D., and attended high school at St. Boniface School, St. Boniface, Manitoba. He received his college training at St. Thomas' College, St. Paul, Minnesota. He received the habit of the Order on Christmas Day, 1903, at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Ky., and made his profession the following year. His course of philosophy and theology was pursued at the House of Studies, Washington, where he was ordained to the priesthood on June 24, 1909.

His first assignment was at the Motherhouse of the Congregation of the Most Holy Rosary, Sinsinawa, Wisc., and his apostolate of