THE REVEREND JOHN JUSTIN KENNEDY, O.P.

Father Kennedy died in Memphis, Tenn., on November 22nd after a long illness.

Born November 22nd, 1899, in Knoxville, Tenn., Father Kennedy received his early education in parochial schools of Knoxville, and Birmingham, Ala. After completing the required preliminary studies at Aquinas College High School in Columbus, Ohio, he was admitted to the Dominican Novitiate at St. Joseph's Priory, Somer­set, Ohio, in 1918. He pursued his philosophical and theological studies at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Ky., and the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D. C. He was ordained to the Sacred Priesthood at St. Dominic's Church in the aforesaid city by Archbishop Michael J. Curley of Baltimore on June 27th, 1925.

Father Kennedy spent the first year of his priesthood as Secretary of the Very Reverend Provincial of St. Joseph's Province, and in 1927 he was appointed Chaplain of Holy Name Monastery (enclosed Dominican Sisters) in Cincinnati. He held this position for ten years, serving at the same time as professor in Purcell High School in the same city. In 1937 Father Kennedy was assigned to Albertus Magnus College, New Haven, where he taught for a period of four years. Finally in 1941 he was transferred to Providence College where he served as Professor of Philosophy and Dean of Discipline. He remained at Providence until 1950, when he was sent to Memphis to teach at nearby Siena College.

A Solemn Funeral Mass was offered at the Church of St. Dominic in Washington on November 26 for the repose of his soul. The Rev. J. M. Barrett, O.P., was Celebrant, assisted by Rev. J. V. Dailey, O.P., as Deacon, and Rev. T. J. McGregor, O.P., as Subdeacon. The Very Rev. J. J. McLarney, O.P., Prior of St. Joseph’s Priory, Somerset, Ohio, preached the eulogy in which he emphasized Father Kennedy’s most conspicuous qualities: humility and self-abasement. These qualities won for him a host of friends who are deeply grieved at his death. His funeral Mass was sung by the Theological Students of the Dominican House of Studies of Washington.

Dominicana offers sincere sentiments of condolence to Father Kennedy’s relatives and friends. His was a great soul. May it enjoy eternal rest.