

## THE VERY REVEREND

✠ PATRICK ANTHONY MAHER, O.P., P.G. ✠

Father Maher died suddenly on the afternoon of January 6, 1952, at St. Vincent Ferrer's Priory in New York. On the morning of the day he died, he had celebrated Sunday Mass in the church and had delivered a sermon: "The Meaning of the Feast of the Epiphany."

Father Maher was a son of St. Vincent's Parish and it was there that he spent the greatest part of his forty-six years in the priesthood. He was born in New York City on September 30, 1878. As a boy he attended Saint Vincent Ferrer's school, and later St. Francis Xavier's College in New York. On June 24, 1898, he received the habit and began his novitiate at St. Rose Priory in Springfield, Kentucky, and a year later he made his simple profession as a Dominican in the same convent. His years of philosophical study were passed at St. Rose, after which he began his course in theology at St. Joseph's Priory in Somerset, Ohio. He was ordained to the priesthood in Somerset on June 29, 1905, by the Most Reverend James J. Hartley, Bishop of Columbus.

After an additional year of study at the recently-completed Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D. C., Father Maher returned to his native parish of St. Vincent Ferrer's in New York for ten years of ministration as a parish priest. While at St. Vincent's, he was a pioneer in Catholic youth work, organizing and directing the Dominican Lyceum. During this first decade of his priesthood, Father Maher acquired a reputation as an organizer and a preacher. In 1916 he was assigned to the Mission Band. As a parochial missionary, he preached in many parts of the East and Middle West, a work in which he was most successful and for which he was well-fitted. Wherever he labored, people liked him, and priests everywhere spoke of him in terms of high praise.

In 1924, Father Maher began an extended career as a parochial administrator when he was appointed pastor of St. Dominic's Church in Youngstown, Ohio. In 1927, he became pastor of Holy Rosary Church in Houston, Texas. After three years in Texas, he resumed his work on the Mission Band for two more years. Then Father Maher served two terms as prior of St. Catherine of Siena's Priory in New York from 1932 until 1938. His last pastorate was that of St. Thomas' Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, but failing health forced him to relinquish this post in 1940. Father Maher was assigned once more to St. Vincent Ferrer's in New York, where he remained until his death, continuing his parochial ministry and his preaching activity as

far as his health would permit. While stationed at St. Vincent's, he filled the role of assistant director of the Mission Band, an assignment which he still held at the time of his death. During the last few years of his life, he had been the confessor and spiritual director for the theological students at their summer villa. All regarded him as a splendid priest and religious, and nearly a half century of varied experience in the priesthood made him an admirable guide and a source of true inspiration for the young Dominicans on the threshold of their ordination.

In recognition of his long and fruitful years as a preacher throughout the vast reaches of St. Joseph's Province, Father Maher was awarded the distinctively Dominican degree of Preacher General by the Master General of the Order. This great honor which crowned his priestly life was conferred upon him in a special ceremony at St. Vincent Ferrer's Church on September 12, 1944.

On January 9, a Solemn Mass of Requiem was offered for Father Maher at St. Vincent Ferrer's Church in New York. The celebrant of the Funeral Mass was the Very Rev. W. D. Marrin, O.P., Prior of St. Vincent Ferrer's. The Very Rev. V. R. Burnell, O.P., P.G., Prior of St. Mary's in New Haven, Connecticut, was deacon, and the Very Rev. H. C. Boyd, O.P., P.G., Director of the Eastern Mission Band, was subdeacon. The eulogy was preached by the Very Rev. J. H. Healy, O.P., P.G. The Very Rev. T. S. McDermott, O.P., Provincial, was seated in the sanctuary. Over two hundred Dominicans from all parts of the country were gathered at the Mass to pay tribute to Father Maher's beloved memory.

*Dominicana* extends sympathy to the relatives and friends of Father Maher. *May he rest in peace.*



### ✠ THE VERY REVEREND JOSEPH ALBERT VINCI, O.P., P.G. ✠

Father Vinci passed away on February 6, 1952, at St. Michael's Hospital in Newark, New Jersey, at the age of fifty-two. He had been ill but a short time. Hospitalized a week before his death, he underwent a strenuous operation, but he survived the surgery only a few days. Rev. J. S. Kennedy, O.P., of St. Antoninus' Priory, where Father Vinci was assigned at the time of his death, administered the last sacraments.

A native of Rome, Italy, Father Vinci was born on May 4, 1899. He was raised in the parish attached to the venerable Church of St.