

✠ VERY REVEREND LEO LOUIS FARRELL, O.P., P.G. ✠

Father Leo Louis Farrell died of a heart attack on the afternoon of July 10, 1953 at St. Andrew's Rectory, Cincinnati, Ohio. He was sixty-six years of age, and had been an exemplary priest in the Dominican Order for more than thirty-six years.

Father Farrell was born in Chamberlin, Brule County, South Dakota on August 15, 1887,—the eldest child of James and Annie Teresa (Smith) Farrell. He attended the grammar school of that city, and St. Thomas College high-school, St. Paul, Minnesota. He was clothed in the habit of the Order at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio in the winter of 1909,—making his simple profession on the Feast of the Circumcision, 1911. He pursued the regular course of philosophical and theological studies at St. Joseph's Priory and the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C. On June 15, 1917, Father Farrell was ordained to the sacred priesthood in Washington, D.C. by the Most Reverend Thomas J. Shahan, Rector of the Catholic University of America.

After the prescribed year of theology following ordination, Father Farrell was assigned to parochial work at St. Antoninus Priory, Newark, New Jersey. In 1923, Father Farrell was attached to the Eastern Mission Band. He engaged in missionary work in St. Joseph's Province until his appointment as pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, Madison, Wisconsin in 1929. Shortly thereafter, he was chosen to head the Chicago Mission Band, which office he fulfilled with his customary diligence and industry. From 1939 to 1942 he served as parish priest at St. Dominic's Church, Denver, Colorado, after which Father Farrell again labored on the Mission Band, with residence at St. Catherine of Siena Priory, New York City, New York. An indication of his versatility and administrative ability is evidenced by Father Farrell's several appointments as pastor in various parishes of the Province. In May, 1950, he was appointed to the pastorate of St. Mary's Church, Johnson City, Tennessee, and at the time of his sudden death he had served as pastor of St. Andrew's Church, Cincinnati, Ohio for over a year.

Though in poor health in his later years, Father Farrell was unsparing in his devotion to priestly duties. He was regarded everywhere as an excellent preacher and retreat-master. In 1947, Father Farrell was awarded the high and distinctively Dominican degree of "Preacher General" by the Master-General of the Order in recognition of his many, successful years as a preacher and missionary.

On July 14, 1953, a Pontifical Mass of Requiem was offered for Father Farrell by the Most Reverend Karl J. Alter, Archbishop of Cincinnati, at St. Andrew's Church in Cincinnati. Assisting as Archpriest was the Right Reverend Marcellus Wagner, Vicar-general of the archdiocese of Cincinnati, with the Most Reverend Paul A. Skehan, O.P., Procurator-general of the Order, as deacon and the Very Reverend James J. McLarney, O.P., Prior of St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio as subdeacon. Serving as Acolytes in the Funeral Mass were the Reverend H. B. Schaller, O.P., and the Reverend T. A. Abbott, O.P. The eulogy was delivered by the Reverend J. B. Walsh, O.P., of St. Peter's Church, Memphis, Tennessee. Dominican Students from St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio, formed the choir for the Mass. Over a hundred priests, fellow-Dominicans, several Monsignori and other secular clergy were in attendance to pay tribute to Father Farrell's beloved memory. The church was filled with parishioners of St. Andrew's and about eighty Sisters from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Interment was in the community cemetery at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, where the Very Reverend C. A. Musselman, O.P., assisted by the Very Reverend B. C. Werner, O.P., and the Reverend C. B. Carroll, O.P., conducted the ceremonies at the grave.

*Dominicana* extends sympathy to Father Farrell's brothers, and to all his other relatives and friends. *May he rest in peace.*