

✠ VERY REVEREND ANDREW MICHAEL WHELAN, O.P. ✠

Father Whelan died on the morning of October 25, 1953, the feast of Christ the King, at Georgetown Hospital in Washington, D. C. Hospitalized for about two months, Father Whelan had undergone several operations for a brain tumor. At the time of his death, at the age of forty-four, he was pastor of St. Dominic's Church, Washington, D. C. A splendid religious and a very capable, kindly pastor, his untimely passing was mourned by all who knew him.

A native of Jersey City, New Jersey, Father Whelan was born on June 4, 1909. He was one of four sons of Andrew and Delia (Sheridan) Whelan, natives of Ireland, and was raised in Sacred Heart parish, Jersey City, attending grammar school there. He received high-school education at St. Peter's Preparatory school, Jersey City, and at Aquinas College High-school, Columbus, Ohio. Later, he was graduated from Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island. In the autumn of 1929, he entered the novitiate at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, and received the habit on the feast of the Assumption that year. On August 16, 1930, he made simple profession as a member of the Order of Preachers into the hands of the Very Rev. J. P. Aldridge, O.P., then Prior of St. Rose Priory. His years of philosophical study were passed at the House of Studies, River Forest, Illinois, after which he began his course in theology at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio, completing it at the House of Studies in Washington, D. C. He was ordained to the sacred priesthood in St. Dominic's in Washington on June 10, 1936, by the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate.

After the customary year of theology following ordination, Father Whelan returned to his native parish, Sacred Heart, in Jersey City, for thirteen years of ministration as a parish priest. While at Sacred Heart he was a tireless worker, unsparing in his devotion to priestly duties. His admirable executive abilities were soon recognized by all. Consequently, on September 18, 1940, he was appointed to the office of subprior at Sacred Heart, in which capacity he served until his assignment, in 1948, as assistant pastor and subprior of St. Dominic's Priory, Washington, D. C. On April 7, 1951, Father Whelan was elected prior of St. Dominic's, and remained in that office until his death. A quiet, kindly pastor, he was beloved by his parishioners in whose interests he labored ceaselessly. Under his direction, the Holy Name Society was promoted in the parish, and the educational

facilities were revised and renovated. His memory will be revered by these parishioners for many years to come.

On Tuesday morning, October 27, his body was brought to St. Dominic's where it lay in state until the funeral on Wednesday morning. The Office of the Dead was recited by a large assembly of Dominican Fathers and Students on the evening preceding the funeral. A Solemn Pontifical Requiem Mass was offered for Father Whelan on October 28 by the Most Rev. Patrick A. O'Boyle, D.D., Archbishop of Washington. The Most Rev. John M. McNamara, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Washington was present in the sanctuary for the Funeral Mass. The Rev. F. N. Halligan, O.P., was the deacon for the Mass, with the Rev. W. B. Ryan, O.P., serving as subdeacon. Assisting as Archpriest was the Very Rev. W. M. Conlon, O.P., Prior of Immaculate Conception Convent, Washington. The deacons of honor to the Archbishop were the Rev. J. B. Heary, O.P., pastor of St. Dominic's Church, Detroit, Michigan, and the Rev. F. J. Fanning, O.P. The Rev. Walter J. Schmitz, S.S., and the Rev. John S. McDonough, S. S., professors at the Theological College, Catholic University, were the masters of ceremonies. The eulogy was preached by the Very Rev. Philip F. Mulhern, O.P., Regent of Studies for St. Joseph's Province. Dominican Students of the House of Studies, Washington, formed the choir for the Mass. The church was filled with a large delegation of Dominicans, secular clergy and parishioners, who were present to pay their final respects to Father Whalen. Archbishop O'Boyle imparted the final absolution. Burial took place in the Dominican Fathers' plot in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

To Father Whalen's brothers, and to all his relatives and friends, Dominicana offers sincere expression of sympathy. May his soul rest in peace!