

✠ FATHER ALBERT BASIL DAVIDSON, O.P. ✠

On October 2, 1954, Father Albert B. Davidson died at St. Joseph's Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His death came as the result of a long illness.

Father Davidson was born in Redburn, Pennsylvania, on February 22, 1903. He was the youngest of ten children in the family of James and Catherine Clancy Davidson. His father came from Scotland, and his mother from Ireland. He received his early education at Holy Cross Parochial School in Pittsburgh before attending Aquinas College High School in Columbus, Ohio, and Providence College in Rhode Island. After entering the Dominican Novitiate at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio, he was clothed in the habit by Rev. J. C. Brady, O.P., on the feast of the Assumption, 1924. On August 19th of the next year, Brother Basil, as he was called in religion, made simple profession of vows before the Very Rev. Raymond Meagher, O.P., who was then Provincial of St. Joseph's Province. Following profession he was sent to the Dominican House of Studies, River Forest, Illinois, for the philosophy course from 1925-28. Then Brother Basil went to the House of Studies in Washington, D. C., for his training in theology. On June 15, 1931, at St. Dominic's Church in Washington D. C., he was ordained a priest by Archbishop Michael J. Curley of Baltimore.

Father Davidson's first assignment was to St. Vincent Ferrer's Priory in New York on September 8, 1932. The following year, on September 1st, he was transferred to St. Catherine's Priory of the same city. Then, on November 11, 1935, Father Davidson went to the Priory of St. Antoninus in Newark, New Jersey, as subprior and procurator. He was elected prior of St. Antoninus on December 20, 1941. At the time of his death his house of assignment was St. Raymond's Priory, Providence, Rhode Island.

Father Davidson held a Master's degree from the Catholic University of America. His capabilities are well evidenced by the fact that he was chosen for the responsible office of prior rather early in his Dominican life.

The first solemn Mass for the happy repose of Father Davidson's soul was offered at St. Willhedren's Church in Pittsburgh on the 4th of October with the Very Rev. John D. Walsh, O.P., celebrating. The Very Rev. J. B. Reese, O.P., acted as deacon, Rev. Charles McKenna, O.P., as subdeacon. The Very Rev. James J. McLarney, O.P.,

preached the eulogy. Several diocesan priests and Dominican Fathers were present for this Mass. At St. Joseph's Church in Somerset, Ohio, the Very Rev. John D. Walsh celebrated the funeral Mass with Rev. Paul Elnen, O.P., acting as deacon and Rev. Edmund E. Connolly, O.P., as subdeacon. The eulogy was given again by the Very Rev. James J. McLarney. The burial took place in the community plot of St. Joseph's Priory.

To Father Davidson's two brothers and to all his friends, *Dominicana* offers heartfelt condolences. *May his soul rest in peace!*