

## ✠ FATHER FRANCIS JORDAN FANNING, O.P.

On May 8, 1955 Father Francis Jordan Fanning was suddenly stricken with cerebral hemorrhage and rushed to Misericordia Hospital New York where he died shortly afterwards. Death came a few days before the celebration of his fifty-first birthday and the twenty-third anniversary of his ordination.

Father Fanning was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, on May 18, 1904, the second of the four children of Peter A. and Clara McTague Fanning. His early education was received at St. Joseph and Sacred Heart parochial schools, and Lincoln High School in Jersey City. He prepared for entrance into the Dominican Order at Aquinas High School, Columbus, Ohio, and Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island. On September 8, 1925 he received the habit of St. Dominic at St. Rose's Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, and on September 9 of the following year made his profession of religious vows. From 1926-29 he took his courses in Philosophy at the Dominican House of Studies, River Forest, Illinois. The next four years were spent studying Sacred Theology at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio, and the Dominican House of Studies at Washington, D. C. On May 20, 1932 he was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Curley of Baltimore.

At the completion of his theological studies, Father Fanning was sent to Providence College, where he served as librarian. During the years 1944-46 he was a chaplain in the Navy with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. After his discharge from the Navy he returned to Providence College where he remained until 1952, when he was assigned to the staff of *Rosary Magazine*. At the time of his death he fulfilled the position of Editor.

On May 11, 1955 in St. Vincent Ferrer's Church, New York, a Solemn Mass of Requiem was offered for Father Fanning by the Reverend Sydney C. Osborne, O.P. The Very Reverend George C. Reilly, O.P., was deacon, with the Reverend Richard E. Vahey, O.P., acting as subdeacon. The eulogy was preached by the Reverend Patrick J. Conaty, O.P. Other Dominican priests assisted as minor ministers of the Mass. The burial took place in All Souls Cemetery, Pleasantville, New York.

To Father Fanning's parents and sisters, and to all his relatives and friends, *Dominicana* extends sincere and heartfelt expression of sympathy. *May his soul rest in peace.*