THE REVEREND

WILLIAM LEO WHALEN, O.P.

Father William L. Whalen, O.P., died on October 8th, 1957 at the Dominican Camp of which he was the founder and director. At the time of his death, he also held the office of Provincial Procurator of the Province of St. Joseph.

William Leo Whalen was born of Irish parents on June 27th, 1882 in Bradford, Yorkshire, England and was one of twelve children. He came to the United States at an early age and received his elementary and high school education at Sacred Heart School, Pawtucket, Rhode Island and at LaSalle Academy, Providence. On January 13th, 1906, he received the Dominican habit at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio and made his Profession there a year later. He completed his training for the priesthood at the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C. and was ordained in that city on June 20th, 1912 in the chapel of Caldwell Hall, Catholic University, by the Most Reverend John E. Gunn, S.M.

Father Whalen's first assignments were as Chaplain to the National Soldiers' Home and Procurator at the Dominican House of Studies, both in the Nation's Capitol. Holy Rosary Church in Houston, Texas next claimed his services until 1921 when we was assigned to St. Vincent Ferrer Priory in New York City where he has remained ever since. Father Whalen has held the offices of Sub-Prior and Procurator at that house, but is perhaps best-known for his work at the Dominican Camp which he founded in 1928 at Staatsburg, New York. Through his untiring zeal and diligent efforts, it has grown from its humble beginnings to the modern, fully-equipped plant it is today. It will remain as a memorial to Father Whalen.

The Most Reverend Joseph F. Flannelly, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of New York, gave the Absolution following the Solemn
Requiem Mass in St. Vincent Ferrer’s Church on October 11th, 1957. The Celebrant of the Mass was the Very Rev. Daniel L. Shannon, O.P., Prior and Pastor of St. Vincent Ferrer’s, who was assisted by the Rev. William F. Kopfman, O.P. and the Very Rev. John D. McMahon, O.P., S.T.M. as Deacon and Subdeacon, respectively. The Acolytes were the Rev. James R. McAvey, O.P. and the Rev. Thomas K. Connolly, O.P. Other ministers were the Reverend Fathers James G. Joyce, O.P., William A. Carroll, O.P. and Charles A. Farrell, O.P. The eulogy was preached by the Rev. Harold R. Barron, O.P. About 90 priests, both diocesan and religious, were present, including Monsignors John J. Scally and Harold S. Engel, both of the Archdiocese of New York. Burial was in the Dominican Plot, All Souls’ Cemetery, Pleasantville, N.Y.

To Father Whalen’s sister, Mrs. Frederick Kirby, and to his brother, Mr. Kearon J. Whalen, we offer our deepest sympathy. May their beloved brother and ours now enjoy the heavenly reward he has so well merited!

THE REVEREND

MICHAEL AUGUSTINE O’CONNOR, O.P.


Michael Augustine O’Connor was born in New York City on January 18th, 1903. After completing his elementary education in various parochial schools in Staten Island and Mount Vernon, New York, he entered the preparatory school of the Dominican Order, then at Aquinas High School in Columbus, Ohio. He did one year of his college work there, also, and went to Providence