

## Obituaries

### The Reverend Walter Charles Durbin, O.P.

Reverend Walter Charles Durbin, O.P., died in an automobile accident on August 24, 1961, just two months after his silver jubilee. Fr. Durbin was killed when his car struck the median strip on the Pennsylvania Turnpike after he had suffered a heart attack. At the time of his death, he was assistant pastor at St. Thomas Parish in Zanesville, Ohio.

Fr. Durbin was born in the village of Danville, Knox County, Ohio, on March 15, 1910. He began his schooling in a district grammar school and a public high school there. After completing further studies at Aquinas College in Columbus, Ohio, and at Providence College in Rhode Island, he entered the Order of Preachers. As a Dominican, his course of studies brought him to St. Rose Priory in Kentucky, the Dominican House of Studies in River Forest, Illinois, St. Joseph's Priory in Ohio and the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C. He was ordained on June 10, 1936 by Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, apostolic delegate to the United States.

After his ordination, Fr. Durbin was assigned to Aquinas College in Columbus, Ohio where he taught for three years. Then he was stationed at St. Vincent Ferrer's Priory in New York City where he did parish work in 1940 and 1941. From 1941 to 1946, he served as army chaplain in the European theatre of operations. After his return home, he was assigned to St. Gertrude's Parish in Cincinnati, Ohio, for eleven years, and then in 1957 he was transferred to St. Thomas' in Zanesville where he was working at the time of his death.

In attendance at the funeral Mass were the Most Rev. Clarence G. Issenmann, Bishop of Columbus, who gave the obsequies in the church, and Very Rev. Daniel L. Shannon, O.P., vicar provincial. Celebrant of the Mass was Rev. Joseph B. Briggs, O.P., pastor of St. Thomas'; the offices of deacon and subdeacon were filled by two of Fr. Durbin's classmates, Very Rev. John J. McDonald, O.P., S.T.M., of St. Albert's province and Rev. Anthony G. McCabe, O.P., of St. Joseph's province. Rev. George H. Callan, O.P., who had preached the sermon at Fr. Durbin's jubilee Mass two months ago, preached the eulogy. Rev. James L. Kilkenny, O.P., also a classmate, and Rev. Paul W. Cronin, O.P., were the servers of the Mass. Fr. Durbin's body was buried at St. Joseph's cemetery in Somerset, Ohio.

To his surviving mother, Mary F. Durbin, and to his five brothers and one sister, *Dominicana* offers its sincerest sympathy.