Obituary

THE VERY REVEREND
MATTBETH L. OSBOURN, O.P.

On Saturday, December 9th, 1961, Father Matthew Osbourn, Prior of Blessed Sacrament Priory and pastor of the parish, died after an illness of over a month in Providence Hospital, Seattle, Washington. Father had entered the hospital early in October for surgery at which time he was found to have cancer of the liver. On December 12th, the Solemn Requiem funeral Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Cyril Osbourn, O.P., brother of the deceased and stationed at Sacred Heart Priory, Jersey City. The sub-prior of Blessed Sacrament, the Very Rev. C. V. McEachen, O.P., was deacon; the Rev. Peter Nash, O.P., was subdeacon. The Most Rev. Thomas A. Connolly, Archbishop of Seattle, presided at the Mass and the Most Rev. Thomas E. Gill, auxiliary bishop, was also present in the sanctuary.

The Very Rev. Joseph Agius, O.P., provincial of the Province of the Holy Name, preached the sermon following the Mass. Solemn Requiem Masses were also celebrated for Father Osbourn at Saint Dominic’s Church, San Francisco, and at St. Rose in Springfield, Ky., where Father’s body was received for burial in the Dominican cemetery at St. Rose.

Father Osbourn, the youngest of ten children, was born in Springfield. After entering the Dominican Order he was professed in 1929 and ordained June 13, 1935, in Washington, D.C. He celebrated the silver anniversary of his priestly ordination last year.

Although born and educated in the South, Father Osbourn spent almost all his priestly life on loan to the Province of the Holy Name on the West Coast. He was a professor in the philosophy department of the Dominican House of Studies, Oakland, California, from 1936 to 1943. From then until 1951 he conducted retreats for religious. From 1951 to 1953 he was retreat master and chaplain of the Monastery of the Holy Angels in Hollywood, California.

In 1953 Father Osbourn went to Blessed Sacrament Parish in Seattle and was sub-prior and assistant before his appointment as prior and pastor in November, 1959.

Among his surviving brothers, besides Father Cyril Osbourn, are: Richard, Louisville, Ky., and Victor, Springfield. To all the family and friends of Father Matthew Osbourn, Dominicana offers sincere sympathy for your loss.