

## THE VERY REVEREND JOHN DONALD McMAHON

On the morning of October 2, 1962, the province was shocked by the sudden death of Very Reverend John Donald McMahon, O.P., S.T.M. Father had just completed teaching his class in moral theology when death came. He was fifty-one years of age.

Father McMahon was born in New York City on February 26, 1911. He attended Saint Vincent Ferrer's grammar school in the same city, Aquinas High School in Columbus, Ohio, and Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island, before entering the novitiate at Saint Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky. Upon the completion of his philosophical and theological training, Father McMahon was ordained to the priesthood on June 11, 1937.

After a year in Washington following his ordination, during which time he received the lectorate in theology, Father McMahon was assigned to the Philippine Islands. There he taught for the next four years at the College of Saint John Lateran and the University of Santo Tomas. It was there also that he received his M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy.

With the invasion of the Islands by the Japanese forces in 1942, Father McMahon, along with his American companions, was interned. In 1944 he was made a prisoner of war. Liberated by General Douglas MacArthur in February, 1945, he soon returned to this province where for the rest of his life he taught in the studia. In recognition for his scholarship and his devotion to the pursuit of truth, on June 17, 1956 Father was awarded the degree of Master of Sacred Theology by the then Master-General, Father Michael Browne.

A large delegation of Dominicans led by the Provincial, Father Marín, O.P., as well as members of other religious orders were present for the funeral Mass. Very Rev. Charles H. McKenna, O.P., prior of the House of Studies, was celebrant. Very Rev. Raphael J. Gillis, O.P., lector primarius at Saint Rose Priory in Dubuque was deacon. Very Rev. E. Ferrer Smith, O.P., Regent of Studies, was subdeacon. The eulogy was preached by Very Rev. Philip Mulhern, O.P.

To the family and friends of Father McMahon *Dominicana* extends its sincere condolences.