Reverend John Victor Williams, O.P.

On August 28, 1963, Father John Victor Williams, O.P., died suddenly at Providence College. He had been a missionary on the Eastern Mission Band at the time of his death.

Father Williams was born in Lynn, Massachusetts, on April 13, 1903. He received his early education at St. Joseph’s Institute in Lynn. Later he attended Aquinas College, Columbus, Ohio, and Providence College, Providence, R. I. Upon entering the Dominican Order, Father Williams studied at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Ky.; the House of Studies, River Forest, Ill.; St. Joseph Priory, Somerset, Ohio; and the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D. C. He was ordained at St. Dominic’s Church, Washington, D. C., by Archbishop Michael J. Culey of Baltimore, Md., on June 17, 1933.

Father Williams was first assigned to Sacred Heart Priory, Jersey City, N. J., where he did parish work. In 1937 he was transferred to St. Mary’s Priory, New Haven, Conn., and began his many and fruitful years as a member of the Mission Band.

The funeral for Father Williams took place on August 31, 1963, at St. Mary’s Church, New Haven, Conn. The celebrant was the Very Rev. Hugh McGinley, O.P., Prior at St. Mary’s. The deacon and sub-deacon were the Very Rev. Walter B. Sullivan, O.P., P.G., and the Rev. Thomas Shanley, O.P. The eulogy was given by the Very Rev. William R. Dillon, O.P., P.G., head of the Mission Band.

In attendance at the Mass were the Most Rev. John F. Hackett, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Hartford, Conn., and the Very Rev. William D. Marrin, O.P., Provincial of St. Joseph’s province. Over one hundred Monsignori and priests were present. Burial took place in St. Lawrence Cemetery, New Haven, Conn.

To Father Williams’ sister, Miss Alice Williams, and two brothers, Mr. Philip Williams and Mr. Sheridan Williams, Dominicana extends its sympathy.

Reverend Raymond Stephen McGonagle, O.P.

On August 13, 1963, Father Raymond McGonagle died at Our Lady of Fatima Hospital, Providence, R. I., after a short illness. For twenty-eight years he had been Professor of Biology at Providence College. At
the time of his death he was a member of the Providence College Corporation.

Father McGonagle was born in Columbus, Ohio, on November 23, 1903. He received his early education at St. Aloysius School in Columbus, and later attended Aquinas College, Columbus, Ohio, and Providence College, Providence, R. I. Upon entering the Dominican Order, Father McGonagle studied at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio; St. Rose's Priory, Springfield, Ky.; and the Dominican Houses of Studies at River Forest, Ill., and Washington, D.C. On June 16, 1930, he was ordained at St. Dominic's Church, Washington, D. C., by the Most Rev. Michael J. Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore, Md.

Following ordination Father McGonagle completed his graduate studies at Catholic University, Washington, D. C. He also attended Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., where he specialized in physiology and genetics as well as the University of Chicago, where he studied educational methods.

Father McGonagle first began his teaching career at Fenwick High School, River Forest, Ill., in 1931. Five years later, he was assigned to Providence College, where he remained until the time of his death. In his twenty-eight years of dedicated teaching at Providence College Father McGonagle encouraged and stimulated hundreds of young men to careers in the medical and dental professions and their allied fields.


In attendance at the Mass were the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Matthew F. Clarke, V.G., the Very Rev. Mariner T. Smith, O.P., the Rev. E. R. Daley, O.P., secretary of the Provincial of St. Joseph's Province. Also present were many religious and priests, state and local officials, and members of the Doctors Guild of Rhode Island.

To Father McGonagle's mother, Mrs. Ella McGonagle; his sister, Mrs. Jean Bickel; and brother, Mr. Dennis McGonagle; Dominicana extends its sympathy.