Brother Bernard Kelly

Brother Bernard Kelly, O.P., of St. Antoninus Priory, Newark, N.J., died unexpectedly March 5, at the age of 76. He was the oldest Lay Brother in the Province of St. Joseph.

Brother Bernard was born in Dysart, County Limerick, Ireland, the youngest of thirteen children. It was there that he completed his grammar schooling. Coming to the United States he entered the Dominican Order and completed his novitiate at the House of Studies, Washington, D.C. He made his first religious profession there June 22, 1916. Very soon afterwards he was sent to St. Vincent Ferrer’s Parish in New York City. In 1919 he was transferred to St. Mary’s Parish, New Haven, Conn., which remained his home until his final transfer to Newark, N.J., and St. Antoninus’ Parish.

It was after his returning to the Priory from the sacristy that Brother Bernard collapsed; he was anointed and the entire community was assembled. The Salve Regina was sung, and Brother Bernard died as the Brethren were reciting the Prayers for the Dying.

Rev. Thomas Ertle, O.P. was celebrant of the funeral Mass. Rev. Patrick Conaty, O.P. was deacon and Very Rev. Kenneth Sullivan, O.P. was subdeacon. Rev. Edward Holohan, O.P. delivered the funeral oration. Monsignor Joseph Dooling was present at the funeral.

Brother Bernard’s body was laid to rest in the Dominican Plot at Pleasantville, N.Y.

Dominicana offers its sincere sympathy to Brother Bernard’s grand nieces and nephews.