



Very Rev. Ignatius Smith, O. P., S. T. Lr., Ph. D.



founded the Dominican publication known as "The Torch," of which he became the first editor. Later in this same year, 1916, he became National Director of the Holy Name Society and editor of "The Holy Name Journal." At this time he was stationed at the convent of St. Catherine, New York City, and in January, 1917, was elected Prior of that convent, to succeed Very Rev. John T. McNicholas, O. P., S. T. M., now Bishop of Duluth, who had been called to Rome as Socius to the Master General.

When America entered the late World War, Father Smith proved unmistakably the largeness of his patriotic heart by the genuine demonstration of his loyalty to the Stars and Stripes. Constantly engaged, he spoke many times in the cause of the Liberty Loan, Victory Bond, and Food Conservation. Through Father Smith's zealous interest in the American Catholic boys, the Secretary of War, Mr. Baker, increased the number of Catholic chaplains in our army. At different times he lectured throughout the country to the K. of C., and was chaplain of the Lacordaire Council of the Knights in New York. The work of a Christian apostle is no pastime. Father Smith was not enjoying the luxuries of lettered ease during the summer months, but warring in the severe campaign which Truth is waging against error—lecturing here, preaching there. Occasionally he has been called upon to lend assistance to the mission bands.

In 1920 he was reelected prior of the convent of St. Catherine, New York City. His superiors appointed him in September of the same year, at the suggestion of Bishop Shahan, to found and take charge of a course of Thomistic Philosophy at the Catholic University. As this assignment necessitated his leaving New York, he was succeeded by Very Rev. Joseph Ripple, O. P., P. G., as National Director of the Holy Name Society, editor of "The Torch" and "The Holy Name Journal." Very Rev. Father Dempsey, O. P., S. T. Lr., followed him as prior of St. Catherine's. Upon taking a chair of philosophy at the Catholic University, he was assigned to the House of Studies, where he has been since. While here he has numbered among his duties the care of the "Dominicana."

—Bro. Mark O'Dowd, O. P.