

OBITUARY

✠ Brother Gabriel Turbitt, O. P. ✠

With the death of Brother Gabriel Turbitt, O. P., the Dominican novices again sustain a heavy loss from among their number. Brother Gabriel died of heart trouble at his home in Providence, R. I., in the early morning of August 18. He had been at home since the first part of July.

Robert J. Turbitt from his earliest years showed remarkable talents and an exceptionally winning disposition. Throughout his entire school course he was one of the most popular of his class and usually held some class office. He graduated from La Salle Academy in 1919 and was one of the pioneer students of Providence College in 1920. After completing three years of college work, he felt the call to the religious life and in 1922 entered the simple novitiate of the Dominican Order at St. Joseph's, Somerset, taking the name of Brother Gabriel, in religion.

His exemplary conduct and cheerful disposition quickly won him the respect and affection both of his superiors and of his fellow novices. His advancement toward perfection in the spiritual life was rapid and of more than ordinary degree. He made his first profession at the simple novitiate on August 25, 1923.

From St. Joseph's he went to St. Rose Convent, Springfield, Ky., to enter upon his course of philosophy. He was making excellent progress in studies when his health began to fail and on Palm Sunday he suffered a serious stroke. From that time he was confined to bed with a complication of rheumatism and heart trouble. He was permitted to return in July to his own home in Providence in the hope that the change might benefit his condition.

On August 16th his state became critical and he was anointed. Two days later, August 18th, at 5:30 A. M., calm and well prepared, he breathed his last.

He was buried Thursday, August 21, from St. Joseph's Church, Providence, R. I. Dominican Fathers from Providence College chanted the Office of the Dead, and the Very Rev. J. H. Foster, O. P., Brother Gabriel's novice-master, sang the Solemn Requiem Mass. Burial took place in the Dominican plot in St. Francis' Cemetery. Requiescat in pace.

—Bro. Austin Ryder, O. P.