

# Monsignor Paul J. Meyer dies in Kitchener hospital

PRESTON — Designated a Monsignor only three weeks ago, Rt. Rev. Paul Joseph Meyer, pastor of St. Clement's Church, Preston, died in St. Mary's Hospital, Kitchener, after a lengthy illness.

Monsignor Meyer was born in St. Clements, March 6, 1887, the son of the late Jacob and Bertha Meyer. After his elementary education at St. Clements, he continued his studies at St. Jerome's College Kitchener graduating in 1907. After a three year course in theology at the Grand Seminary, Montreal, the deceased was ordained by the late Bishop Dowling in St. Joseph's Convent Chapel, Hamilton on July 25, 1910.

After ordination the late Msgr. Meyer served as assistant priest at St. Mary's and St. Basil's, Brantford; Sacred Heart, Walkerton; New Germany; and one year in the Canadian West. After being administrator in Chepstow for one year, he received his first pastoral appointment to St. Mary's, Hespeler, in 1914, in which capacity he served until coming to St. Clement's, Preston in 1925. During the past 34 years he has served faithfully and conscientiously the congregation of St. Clement's, in Preston. During his pastorate in Preston he served actively on the Separate School Board as trustee and for many years as chairman. Under his active enthusiasm and leadership both the work of the church and the school progressed rapidly.

ONLY A few short weeks ago His Holiness Pope John XXIII recognized the contribution this saintly priest made to the church during his 49 years in the priesthood and he saw fit through His Excellency Bishop Ryan to confer on him the honor of Domestic

Prelate with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor.

A member of the Father Funken General Assembly,



RT. REV. P. J. MEYER

Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, Msgr. Meyer was also a member of the Galt Council K of C.

The body of the late Monsignor Meyer rested at the Maurice J. O'Brien Funeral Home until Friday morning at which time it was taken to St. Clement's Church, Preston, to lie in state until the funeral on Saturday. At 11.15 a.m. on Friday a High Mass of Requiem was offered by Rev. C. J. Weiss, CR, PP, St. Jerome's, Kingsdale, for the children of the schools. It was gratifying to see well over 500 children receive Holy Communion at this Mass, offered for the pastor they all loved so well.

The Rosary was recited on Friday afternoon by members of the CWL and the Altar Society and in the evening by the Holy Name Society and the Knights of Columbus.

Members of the Fourth Degree Father Funken General Assembly of which Monsignor was a member formed an honor guard at the casket. The Office of the Dead was recited by the clergy on Friday evening also.

THE SOLEMN Pontifical Requiem Mass for Monsignor Meyer was celebrated by His Excellency Most Rev. Joseph F. Ryan, DD, JCD, Bishop of Hamilton on Saturday morning in St. Clement's Church, Preston.

Assisting the Bishop were: assistant priest — Rt. Rev. J. F. Hinchey, DP, VG, PP; honorary deacons — Rev. V. Shea, PP, and Rev. J. P. Meyer, PP; deacon and subdeacon of the Mass — Rev. C. L. Siegfried, CR and Rev. B. Murphy, CR; also masters — Revs. J. J. Murphy and S. Bodnar; thurifer — Rev. J. Sherlock, JCL; mitre bearer — Rev. H. Schmuck; book bearer — Rev. A. J. Olinsky; bougie bearer — Rev. G. Mulhall; acolytes — Revs. J. J. Hulley and P. T. Sherratt.

Also present in the sanctuary were: Rt. Rev. E. A. Doyle, DP, PP, of St. Patrick's, Galt; Rt. Rev. J. A. Lenhard, DP, PP, Formosa; Rt. Rev. Wm. Becker, DP, PP, St. Clement's; Rt. Rev. J. A. O'Brien, DP, PP, Hamilton; Rt. Rev. J. C. Warren, DP, PP, Burlington; and Rt. Rev. J. J. Traynor, DP, PP, Elmira.

Besides the above large numbers of diocesan clergy from various parts of the diocese as well as representatives of the Resurrectionists, Basilians, Jesuits, Franciscans and Scarboro Foreign Mission Fathers, were in attendance.

In his funeral oration Msgr. R. Haller, DP, PP, praised the late Msgr. Meyer who was a man who was always true and reliable, a man of sound judgment, and deep humility. He said it was a day of sorrow. But tears are not always a sign of weakness. Our Lord cried at the tomb of Lazarus. Tears can also be a sign of love and devotion. And that is the reason for tears this morning because you have lost a relative, pastor and friend. Msgr. Haller said that life, death and glory is the whole Gospel story. And the constant aim of the deceased was that not one soul among his parishioners should ever miss the glory of God in heaven. "Love your God because He loves you" was the constant teaching of Msgr. Meyer. He had great faith in the power of the priests blessing and spared no effort to bring this blessing to the sick and infirm. Msgr. Haller asked the people for one thing — that they love God in the same manner as their late pastor did.

THE FOLLOWING clergy were honorary casket bearers — Rev. L. J. Fischer, SJ, Guelph; Rev. G. Ryan, PP, Brantford; Rev. E. J. Hartleib, PP, Kitchener; Rev. C. J. Weiss, CR, PP, Kingsdale; Very Rev. E. Geier, rector SFM, Toronto; Rev. F. P. Kehoe, PP, Dundas; Rev. J. Cremen, PP, Waterdown. Active pallbearers were: P. J. Flynn, QC; Grand Knight Thomas McHugh; Cyril Beechey; Francis Mannion; Francis Frank; Gerald Schmalz; Cyril Haller; and Telesphore Grubb.

The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus under the Master B. J. Costello and Faithful Navigator M. V. Montagno formed the guard of honor at the funeral.

Surviving are three brothers: Gregory, of Midland; Jacob, of Berwyn, Alberta; and