



ORDER OF CARMELITES

Carmelite Communications Center



CARMELITE FATHER, REV. KIERAN J. O'HARA DIES

(Nov. 5, 2003; Darien, IL) The Order of Carmelites of the Most Pure Heart of Mary Province under the direction of the Very Reverend John F. Russell, O.Carm, S.T.D., Prior Provincial is saddened at the announcement that the Rev. Kieran O'Hara died Wed. night, Nov. 5, 2003, at St. Patrick's Residence in Naperville, Illinois at the age of 93.

Visitation will be on Friday, Nov. 7, 2003 at the National Shrine of St. Therese, 8501 Bailey Road, Darien, Illinois, beginning at 3:00 PM until the Mass of the Resurrection at 7:30 p.m., celebrated by the Reverend Kevin Shanley, O.Carm. Burial will take place on Saturday, Nov. 8, 2003 at 10:00 AM, at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Chicago.

Born on October 3, 1910, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Fr. Kieran O'Hara was the oldest member of the Carmelite Order in the U.S. and Canada. Fr. Kieran joined the Order and made his first vows on August 15, 1931. His solemn vows followed four years later. Fr. Kieran was ordained a priest on May 16, 1937 at the Quigley Seminary Chapel in Chicago, by the late Bishop Bernard Sheil. He spent the majority of his priestly life teaching, serving as chaplain and in retreat work in Illinois. Fr. Kieran studied in Niagara Falls, Ontario where he attended Mt. Carmel College. In 1936, he received his degree in History-Dramatics-Education from DePaul University, Chicago. He also did graduate work at DePaul, Notre Dame and Georgetown universities. He taught Theology and Dramatics at Mt. Carmel High School in Chicago, served as Chaplain at Lewis College in Lockport,

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Assistant Pastor and Pastor at St. Clara, Chicago, Mission procurator of the province in Aylesford in Darien, Pastor of St. Bernard's in Joliet, and Mission Director in Lacombe, Louisiana.

In 1960 Fr. Kieran was appointed as the financial director of the Carmelite Missions in Chile and Peru. From his Darien office, he was instrumental in sending tons of clothing and other supplies for the needy in South America. In 1968 Fr. Kieran accepted a post as financial director for the Missions of the Carmelite Sisters of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Lacombe, a post he held for two years, after which he continued working in Louisiana, in the field of pastoral care. When a stroke impaired his health in 1998, Fr. O'Hara returned to Illinois to spend his retirement years at Carmelite Carefree Village.

Fr. Kieran, the son of the late James and Mary (Ricketts) O'Hara, brother to the late James and Marian O'Hara Schlicht, is survived by his sister, Mary Ursula O'Hara Lauffer and many nieces and nephews. Arrangements are under the direction of Modell Funeral Home.

A picture of Rev. Kieran J. O'Hara, O.Carm., can be acquired at <http://carmelnet.org/photos/kohara.jpg>. For more information about Fr. O'Hara or the Order of Carmelites contact the Carmelite Communications Center at 630 971-0724 or visit the Carmelite website at www.carmelnet.org.

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