

Distinguished Preacher

Death of Rev Fr. Christopher O'Flynn, C.S.S.R.

The death occurred at St John's Hospital Limerick, on Sunday of the Rev. Father Christopher O'Flynn, C.S.S.R., the distinguished preacher. The deceased rev. gentleman had been in failing health for a considerable time, and his demise was no unexpected.

He had spent the greater part of his life doing missionary work in all parts of the world, and only returned to Ireland in 1938, gaining for himself in his native Limerick a wide popularity, and most sincere regret goes out from all the citizens, and the members of the Arch-Confraternity of the Holy Family in particular, to the Redemptorist Community on the loss of such a gifted member of the Order, and to the members of his family in their sad bereavement.

The genuine sympathy of the citizens, in which we whole-heartedly join, is extended to Mr O'Flynn and the members of his highly-respected family in their affliction.

Two years ago the late Father O'Flynn was one of the Spiritual Conductors of the the annual Retreat for the three Divisions of the Arch Confraternity of the Holy Family, and his eloquent and learned discourses during these memorable three weeks will live for ever in the memory of those who were privileged to be present.

Born in 1867 in Limerick Father O'Flynn was educated at the Crescent College and at Mount St. Alphonsus, Limerick. He was professed a Redemptorist at St. Joseph's in 1910, and did his clerical studies in St. Patrick's College, Baker, where he was ordained in 1916. After a few years of missionary work in Ireland he went to Australia in 1920, where he laboured until 1930. For about six years he was engaged in teaching and directing the juniors at St. Clements, Galery, New South Wales, and for the rest of his time in Australia he gave missions extensively in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. In 1936 he returned to Ireland, and for two years he continued conducting missions and retreats, but about twelve months ago his health began to fail, and he had to discontinue his work.

Father O'Flynn's father, who lives in Limerick, was Senior Alderman of the Limerick Corporation for many years. Deceased was brother of Rev Fr. Raymond O'Flynn, who is a member of the Catholic Missionary Society, Westminster; of Mr John W O'Flynn, Blackrock, Dublin, who is Assistant Accountant in the General Post Office, Dublin; of Mr Fred O'Flynn, Electricity Supply Board, Limerick; of Mr Clement L. O'Flynn, Secretary Galway Co. Council, and of Mr Leo A O'Flynn, Secretary Bacon Marketing Board, Dublin.

The remains accompanied by many members of the Redemptorist Community, and a huge gathering of the citizens, were removed from the Hospital on Monday evening to the Church at Mt. St Alphonsus, where they were laid on a catafalque in front of the High Altar.

This morning at 11 o'clock Solemn Office and Requiem Mass for the repose of the deceased's soul was celebrated, after which the funeral took place, the interment taking place in the crypt beneath the High Altar.

Full report in next issue.