

Kentucky Post - January 28, 1994

Rev. Ambrose Wagner, served as pastor of four area churches

When Rev. Ambrose G. Wagner of Ft. Thomas retired after 45 years as a priest, he continued to be a pious man.

Every morning, he celebrated Mass in his own apartment. And even when he went to live in a nursing home, he extended his hand in love to whomever was in need.

"When he lived in Carmel Manor (in Ft. Thomas), there was someone who worked there whose house burned. He asked me if it was all right to write him a check for \$200," said his niece, Rose Ruedebusch of Villa Hills.

"He was very compassionate and always wanted to help people."

Rev. Wagner died Wednesday at St. Luke Hospital East. He

was 84.

Rev. Wagner was a native of Ft. Thomas and graduated from St. Gregory Seminary in Cincinnati.

He studied theology at Mt. St. Mary Seminary in Cincinnati.

He did post-graduate work at the University of Kentucky and Xavier University in Cincinnati.

He was ordained in 1934 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Henry Church in Erlanger and St. Paul Church in Lexington and taught at the Lexington Latin School and St. Catherine Academy in Lexington.

He served as chaplain at the U.S. Narcotic Hospital in Lexington and then at the St. John Orphanage in Ft. Mitchell.

Rev. Wagner was pastor at these churches before retiring in 1979: the Church of the Resurrection and its Missions in

Lynch; St. Francis de Sales in Newport; Immaculate Conception in Newport; and Saints Peter and Paul in California.

Other survivors include a sister, Gertrude Ruedebusch of Ft. Mitchell, and brothers, Louis J. Wagner of Park Hills, and Anselm Wagner of Latonia.

Mass of Christian burial will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington. Visitation will be from 4 to 6 p.m. and 7:30 to 8 p.m. today and 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday at the church.

A wake will be at 4 p.m. today at the church. Radel Funeral Home in Highland Heights is in charge of arrangements. Burial will be in St. Mary Cemetery in Ft. Mitchell.

Memorials are suggested to the Priest Retirement Fund, in care of Rev. Robert Kriege, P. O. Box 18548, Erlanger, 41018-0548, or Carmel Manor Nursing Home in Ft. Thomas.



Rev. Ambrose Wagner