



Reverend Leo Power

Leo William Power was born to parents John Power and Eleanor Busby on July 23, 1889 in St. Thomas, Ontario. He attended Catholic school for his early education, before attending St. Michael's College in Toronto for his secondary education. He attended St. Peter's Seminary before being ordained on May 21, 1921 by Bishop Michael Francis Fallon.

He was briefly assistant pastor at Sacred Heart Parish in Ingersoll, for less than a year, before serving as interim pastor from 1921 to 1923 at Holy Angels Parish in St. Thomas. He then served as pastor to Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Sarnia, from 1923 to 1928.



In 1928 he was transferred to St. Boniface Parish, Zurich, where he would serve as pastor for the majority of his priestly life, remaining there until 1942. During these fourteen years at Zurich, he built up a reputation for quiet and devoted service — not merely the spiritual exercises, which he practiced daily, but also concerning himself deeply with the affairs of his parishioners: nothing was too trivial for him; he paid close attention to everything brought to him with unfailing kindness and dignity.

He was known as a conscientious figure, concerned also with the dignity of the priesthood. Much in the way that he paid attention to his parishioners, he also paid close attention to the activities of the diocese and the Church as a whole. His orderly, devoted, dignified manner served both as a source of inspiration to his fellow priests, and a source of good-natured ribbing, which he took in stride.

Given the presence and care he showed the Catholics of Zurich, one can only imagine how they must have felt when he left in 1942 to become pastor of St. Michael's Parish in Ridgetown. Father Power being who he was, he showed the parishioners at Ridgetown the same care, attentiveness and devotion that he did while in Zurich.

For the next six years he served Ridgetown, but by 1948 he began to fall seriously ill. It was apparent even to him that he would not survive, but given his orderly, collected nature, he was prepared for the end of his life and faced it with his characteristic calm resignation. He passed away in August of 1949 at the age of 60.

*Tiffany Champagne, M.L.I.S.
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