

FATHER JOSEPH WRONSKI. S. D. B.

We regret to announce the death of the above-named Salesian Priest. Rector of the Polish Church of Our Lady and St. Casimir, Shadwell, London, which took place on the 15th January last. On that day Fr. Joseph had been summoned to a sick call and asked his housekeeper to prepare some food for him. As Fr. Joseph showed no sign of coming down, the housekeeper decided to go and call him, but when she arrived in the room she found him dead and half kneeling across a chair. The priest had a razor in his hand and his shaving utensils were on the table. Medical evidence at the inquest showed that death was due to acute heart trouble. Fr. Wronski had evidently collapsed suddenly just when about to begin his shaving.

The deceased priest was born at Posen just 47 years ago. He did all his ecclesiastical studies in Italy and was ordained in 1906. He served as a chaplain on the Russian front during the War and came to look after the religious needs of his countrymen in London just three years ago. In that brief space of time he had endeared himself to all for his hard work and his love of the poor. That he had plenty to do may be known from the fact that there are at least 3, 000 Catholic Poles and he was the only Polish Priest. He died in the midst of his labours, a zealous priest and a hard-working Son of Don Bosco, and though death came upon him suddenly, one may be confident that it did not find him unprepared.

The Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of this good Salesian took place in the Polish Church on the Friday following in the presence of the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Butt, Bishop of Cambysopolis. The celebrant of the Mass was Very Rev. Fr. McCarthy. S. D. B. and he was assisted by the Very Rev. Frs Sutherland and Austen as deacon and subdeacon respectively. The large congregation present during the Mass included the Polish Ambassador, Consul and Vice-Consul, the Mayor of Stepney and a large representation of the Secular and Regular Clergy.

The interment took place on the same day at St. Joseph's Burwash, Sussex, the private cemetery of the Salesians in England.

May he rest in peace.