



**REV. VICTOR ANDREONI, S.D.B.**

**Born in Manza, Italy 1909**

**Joined the Salesian Society 1934**

**Ordained priest in 1945**

**Died in San Francisco, California, July 9, 1966**

August 24, 1966

Dear Confreres,

Death recently deprived this parish of one of its assistant pastors. Fr. Victor Andreoni was called to his reward on July 9, 1966.

He was born on October 21, 1909, at Manza, Milano, Italy. His parents, Ferdinando Andreoni and Ficernia Prada came from God-fearing peasant stock. After he completed his elementary education at the age of 15, he became an electrician's apprentice.

When he was 21 he felt called to the priesthood and the Salesian life, so he applied for admission as an aspirant. Since he was a late vocation, he was accepted as a Son of Mary at the Salesian Missionary Junior Seminary at Ivrea in 1930. There he completed his classical studies, and asked to be admitted as a clerical novice. He began his novitiate in 1934 at La Moglia. As a novice, he was assigned to the San Francisco Province of the United States of America, and as a result was sent to Newton, New Jersey, to finish his novitiate, where he made his first vows on October 11, 1935.

After completing his philosophy and college courses at Newton, he was assigned as assistant and teacher to St. Francis School, Watsonville, Calif. There he won the esteem of his pupils, many of whom were orphans, by his kindness and understanding.

When he finished his 3 years of practical training at Watsonville, he returned to Newton to pursue his theological studies. He took his perpetual vows there on September 8, 1941. It was at Newton also, that he was ordained a priest on July 1, 1945.

His first assignment as a priest was as teacher and assistant again at Watsonville, Calif. After 2 years he was transferred to our school at Bellflower, Calif., in the same capacity as teacher and assistant. In 1951 he was assigned to this parish as an assistant pastor. For the next 5 years he devoted himself zealously to the spiritual welfare of the parishioners. His next appointment

was as confessor and teacher at Bellflower. In 1961 he was reassigned to this parish. Now more than ever his kindness and sympathetic understanding especially in the confessional made him a much sought after confessor.

In March of this year Father Victor began to complain of pains and discomfort in the upper regions of the abdomen. The doctor sent him to the hospital for a check-up on Laetare Sunday. Tests made by a specialist showed that he was afflicted with a malignant rapidly developing tumor in the stomach. Since surgery was not deemed advisable, he was given cobalt treatments with the hope of reducing and localizing the tumor. The patient himself realized that only a miracle would bring about his cure. All the parishioners joined in a crusade of prayer for his recovery, but God wished to call our confrere to Himself.

During the 16 weeks he was in the hospital, Father Victor accepted patiently the pains and sufferings of his illness, and awaited calmly the approach of death. Comforted by the last sacraments, he was well prepared to meet his Maker. His death, though expected, came rather suddenly. The chaplain and a number of the sisters of the hospital were present reciting the prayers for the dying as he breathed his last.

The Solemn Requiem Mass was sung by Very Rev. Fr. Provincial. The large number of confreres present as well as the huge concourse of parishioners that filled the church showed the high esteem in which the deceased was held by all. Dear confreres, you are requested in your kindness to pray for the eternal repose of this beloved confrere, and for an increase of vocations in this part of the Salesian world.

Asking for your prayers for the spiritual welfare of this Parish, I remain

Sincerely yours

Rev. George Salbeck  
Pastor

