

Father Henry Yzermans, OSC

Born: Vlaardingen (Holland) on July 3, 1870.

Ordained a Priest, June, 14, 1895 in Utrecht, in the Order of the Holy Cross (Crosiers) by Bishop H.Snickers.

He taught school at the Crosier School in Uden (Holland). Went to Diest, Belgium where he taught Dogmatic Theology and was the novice master for the brothers, and socius for the clerics.

He came to the United States in March 1910 and went to Butler, MN. From Butler, he accepted various small assignments in parishes.

He was appointed pastor of Verndale in 1912, and there he built a church in 1918, and a rectory and he stayed in Verndale until his death in 1938 . He used the Northern Pacific railroad to connect to mission churches in Aldrich, Staples, Motley. He was the editor of the Crosier Missionary Magazine which was founded in 1926 and he wrote articles for the St. Cloud Diocesan paper, called My Message, and for the local Verndale Paper, the Verndale Sun, he wrote "Reminiscences of Rev. Yzermans since his arrival in this country."

He died from a heart attack in the Perham Hospital on Wednesday night, April 28, 1938. He was taking the place of the Chaplain of the Hospital from Monday until Thursday. His funeral started on Sunday, May 1 in Verndale. Three masses were said for him on Monday, May 2. His solemn funeral mass was celebrated by Father Adrian Van Zutphen OSC, the Prior of the Crosier Monastery in Onamia on Monday, May 2 with Bishop Joseph F. Busch. He was buried in Holy Cross Parish Cemetery in Onamia, Minnesota in the parish cemetery on May 2, 1938. Later his body was moved to the Crosier Priory Cemetery located on Highway 169.

Text by Jim Moeglein, osc, January 23, 2021