



## Historical Highlights

**Fr. Albert Bibby O.F.M. Cap.**

**+February 14, 1925**

*On November 20, 1924, Fr. Joseph Fenelon and Fr. Albert Bibby drove to Old Mission Santa Inés in Solvang. A large group of parishioners met them and rang all the bells in the mission tower as a token of their joy at the coming of the friars.”*

On November 23 the formal function of installation took place. The first pastor of the old mission was Albert Bibby..... Albert, a hero in Ireland,\* had come to California for his health. He was not long at his new charge, however, when he became seriously ill and had to be taken to St. Francis Hospital in Santa Barbara. He patiently bore his illness, but, died on February 14, 1925. He was the first Capuchin to be buried in the mission cemetery. His remains were exhumed and returned to Ireland where he was buried with full military honors as an Irish Patriot at the Capuchin cemetery in Rochestown.

+++++

In gratitude to our brother, Albert, and the friars of the Mother Province of St. Patrick, please pray one *Glory be to the Father*.

Excerpts: (O’Shea, OFM Cap: Necrology; Barbato, OFM Cap: In the Land of the Pioneer, 1985)

\*He was personally involved in ministering to the Men and Women Patriots of the Easter Uprising of 1916 and the Civil War of 1922 hearing confessions and administering the Last Sacraments of the Church to these people who were sentenced to death for their respective roles in the cause of Irish Freedom.