



### Historical Highlights

Fr. Cyril Kelleher, O.F.M. Cap.

+January 17, 2002

Fr. Cyril (Michael) Kelleher was born in Ballyvourney, Co. Cork in Ireland on June 3, 1919, son of John and Abigail Kelleher. He died on Thursday, January 17, 2002 at St. Francis Hospital in Santa Barbara, CA.

He was educated at Rochestown College, University College, Cork and Theology House, Ard Mhuire, Co. Donegal. He entered the Capuchin Franciscan Order in 1937 and was ordained a priest in 1946. Since 1947, he had been involved in the various ministries of the Capuchins in the Province of Our Lady of Angels, as Director of Clerics at Old Mission Santa Inés in Solvang and later on as Associate Pastor and Pastor. He was the Director of Clerics at St. Patrick's Novitiate in Wilmington, Delaware; as teacher and principal at St. Francis High School in La Cañada-Flintridge. He had been the Guardian of San Lorenzo Seminary in Santa Ynez; as Guardian and Director of Clerics at San Buenaventura Friary in San Francisco. He was also Vice Provincial of what is now the Province of Our Lady of Angels and was Mission Director while residing at Old Mission Santa Inés in Solvang.

Fr. Cyril was well loved by his family and friends and by all those to whom he ministered as a Capuchin priest whether it was as a teacher or as a Pastor. He was known for his zeal for his faith and dedication to the spread of the Gospel. He was also very faithful in his care of the sick and those in need. He was a very prayerful man with a great love for the Eucharist. He was also known for his wit and sense of humor. Like St. Francis of Assisi, he had a great love of nature and of the poor, especially in Mexico, to whom he dedicated the last years of his life by raising funds for the Missions.