

Father Peter Post

December 3rd is the anniversary of the death of Father Peter Post. Louis Post was born on August 25, 1884, in Altus, Arkansas. When he was eight years old, Louis came to Subiaco, beginning his education here on December 11, 1892. A decade later he had completed his elementary and secondary education at Subiaco.

Louis Post professed his vows as a monk of our monastery on November 11, 1903, receiving the name Peter. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John B. Morris at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Little Rock on April 10, 1908, after 16 years of consecutive study at Subiaco.

Father Peter's first assignment following ordination came when Abbot Ignatius appointed him sub-prefect in the academy. Next came three years as assistant pastor at St. Edward's Church in Little Rock, from 1912 to 1915. He then spent over a decade as pastor of St. Ignatius Church in Scranton, Arkansas, and St. Meinrad's Church in Prairie View, Arkansas.

With the beginning of the new year of 1927, Father Peter was appointed pastor of St. Boniface Church in Fort Smith, Arkansas, a pastorate he held for 16 years until a weakened physical condition forced him to resign in September of 1943. It was during his pastorate in 1939 that the new church was blessed.

Following his retirement from active parish work in 1943, Father Peter sought to regain his failing strength through hospital treatments. He first went to Washington, Missouri, to be treated by his nephew, Dr. John Post. Later, Father Peter spent a rest cure at St. Anthony's Hospital in Morrilton, Arkansas, serving as chaplain of the hospital as well.

Further hospital treatment and light chaplaincy duties were taken at the Catholic hospital in Refugio, Texas, until April of 1946, when Father Peter returned to the abbey. Although incapacitated for further work due to arteriosclerosis, Father Peter's condition was not critical until he was stricken with a heart attack in early November of 1946. For the following month he was bedridden in the abbey infirmary where he died peacefully from a stroke on Tuesday, December 3, 1946, at 11:05 a. m., surrounded by Abbot Paul and confreres.

At the time of his death, Father Peter was 62 years old and in the 43rd year of his monastic profession, the 38th of his priesthood. He is buried in our cemetery.

