

Limerick Franciscan

Former Provincial Dies in England

Very Rev. Father Louis Coffey, O.F.M. Guardian of Chilworth Friary, Surrey, and former Provincial of the English Province, who has died, was a native of Limerick, where he studied at the Sacred Heart College. He entered the Franciscans in 1887 and was ordained in London in 1904. For 30 years Father Louis held various posts in the Order and in 1930 was elected Provincial of the Franciscans in England.

At Rome in 1933 he was elected Definitor General for all English speaking provinces of the order, and resided there six years. He was at the same time President of the International Franciscan College of San Antonio. Returning to Chilworth in 1939 he was appointed Guardian of the Friary.

He was famous as a preacher of missions and retreats over a period of many years, as a confessor of religious and layfolk, as an ardent director and propagator of the Third Order of St. Francis.

Solemn Requiem Mass was sung at Chilworth.