

Priest's Tragic Death

Sequel To Accident In England

County Limerick Family's Sad Bereavement.

Forty-seven priests were present at St Mary's Church, Lulworth Castle, Dorsetshire, at the Solemn Requiem Mass for Rev Father Patrick Dwane, PP, of Lulworth Castle, who was drowned when the 10 hp saloon car in which he was travelling plunged over the end of a bridge and fell ten or twelve feet into the flooded River Frome at Holme Bridge, Dorset.

Father Dwane, who was 48, was from Kilfinane, co Limerick. He was brother of Rev Fr Jarlath, OFM, of the Franciscan Friary, Clevedon, Somerset; of Sister Patrick, the Presentation Convent, Durrrow, Laoghis, and of Mr J J Dwane, Hospital, co Limerick.

He had been to the Holy Ghost Church, Dorset, and must have reached Holme Bridge before 8 p m on his journey back to Lulworth Castle.

A man passing by at 8 p m saw what he thought was a light in the water but paid little attention to it.

Passing back about 11 p m the same man noticed light again and this time looked over the temporary wooden parapet—the bridge parapets have been extensively damaged in recent years by heavy military traffic.

He found that the parapets had been broken down and that the lights were coming from a car partially submerged in the water.

The police were notified and an officer waded into the fast running swollen river to find the car lying at an angle, the offside completely submerged and the near side submerged to above the seats.

The front near side door was open but there was no trace of any occupants, although an attache case was found in the car.

It is believed that when the car plunged over the end of the bridge Father Dwane, in trying to escape, was swept away by the swiftly running torrent.