



PRIEST DIES: The Rev. Father William Salvatore Vita, pastor of St. Michael's Catholic church, 1016 West Manchester avenue, died Tuesday shortly after his return from the Ecumenical council in Rome.

FATHER VITA

The Rev. Father Vita, 54, pastor of St. Michael's church, 1016 West Manchester avenue, since January, 1961, had returned last month from Rome where he attended the Ecumenical council. He had attended all of the council sessions, serving as a press liaison assistant as he spoke five languages fluently.

Native of Des Moines, Iowa, the Rev. Father Vita attended public schools in Missouri and Illinois, and received a bachelor's degree in economics from Loyola university in Chicago. He studied language and history in the Royal university in Florence, Italy, and studied also at Sorbonne university in Paris. He also received degrees from St. Ambrose college in Davenport, Iowa, and three seminaries, St. Paul's, St. Patrick's, and St. John's.

Before studying for the

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priesthood, he was a newspaperman for several years, working in Des Moines, and in Chicago.

ORDAINED

He was ordained in Los Angeles on June 7, 1941, and became first assistant pastor at Mary Star of the Sea church in San Pedro where he worked for many years with those in the fishing industry. He later assisted at St. Andrew's church in Pasadena, and in 1954 was assigned as pastor of St. Peter's Italian church on North Broadway. He received the Cavaliere d'onore from the Italian government for his work with the church.

Shortly after his assignment to St. Michael's church, the Rev. Father Vita assisted with preparations for the ceremonies which marked the consecration of the church.

Requiem mass was solemnized yesterday at the church with Msgr. George M. Scott, of San Pedro, officiating. The two had worked together for many years. Cardinal McIntyre presided at the mass.

Mass for parishioners and school children took place Friday at the church. Another mass will be recited at 7:30 tomorrow night at St. Peter's

Italian church, 1309 North Broadway. Interment is scheduled in Holy Cross cemetery.