

March 26

Br. Masseo Bogaert

Br. Masseo was born on July 16, 1893 in Izegem, Belgium. He did his studies in his native city and in Alost, West Flanders. He was ordained to the priesthood in Bruges, on December 23, 1922. He consecrated many years of his life as a missionary in Punjab, Pakistan India. He went to Poland to learn the language so as to pursue his ministry among the Polish immigrants in Manitoba and Ontario.

Coming to Canada in 1937, he spent a few years in St. Boniface. He received his obedience for Toutes Aides Manitoba, on May 30, 1941 and he administered the parish until October 27, 1946. He had a great voice and he was a great preacher who encouraged the faithful to courageously live their religious duties. He took on the job of finishing the construction of the Church. He would travel to the United States to preach and to beg for funds for construction of buildings in the Manitoba North. After a small time in Princeton, Ontario, he returned to Belgium.

He then established himself in the Capuchin province of Lyons, France. In 1960, he resided at the Capuchin friary of St. Etienne. Then he was sent to Clermont-Ferrand, where he had a saintly death on March 26, 1969. He was mourned by his Capuchin brothers and the Bishop of the city presided at his funeral mass in the presence of his superiors who came from Belgium. May he rest in peace!

