

Rev. John A. Van Nevel

4th State Chaplain of Oregon 1916-1917



John A. Van Nevel was born 1855 in West Flanders, Belgium to John and Mary Van Nevel.

In 1879 he was ordained priest. The same year he went to Vancouver Island, B. C., and remained there in Indian Mission service. He taught at St. Louis College, Victoria, B. C. until 1910 and served as President of the College when he came to Albany, OR. He served as assistant to Rev. Arthur Lane, of the local parish for a year. In 1911 Rev. Van Nevel was moved to a parish in Medford, OR and in 1914 to Grants Pass. In 1915 Rev. Van Nevel became ill and was relieved of his duties in Grants Pass and returned to Albany

to recover. Around 1916 he was assigned the parish in Milwaukie.

Rev. Van Nevel became the Oregon Knights of Columbus State Chaplin in 1916.

In January, 1917 Rev. Van Nevel became confined to St. Vincent's Hospital due to sickness brought on by overwork and nervous strain and later transferred to St. Mary's Hospital in Albany, OR.

Rev. John A. Van Nevel died on June 9, 1917 in Albany, OR and is buried at Mt. Angel Abbey Cemetery in Mount Angel, OR

"For the world at large, and even our own fellow-Catholics, are only too prone to judge us by the shortcomings of a mere handful of lukewarm brothers, rather than by the sterling qualities and the noble activities of our armies of Knights, who are good and true."

Rev. Van Nevel, 9th State Convention, May 7, 1917, Portland, OR

(Rev. Van Nevel is the only Past State Chaplain where no picture of him can be found.)

