

+ Father Dan Colibraro +

Father Dan Colibraro, a good and great priest of our diocese, went home to God on April 19th. The Lord blessed him with a very long and very productive life -- 93 years. Father Dan was regarded as the most intellectual and well-read priests of our diocese and yet, he was very humble and self-effacing.

I had the great privilege of being assigned to St. Joseph Parish, Cheyenne, for two years with Father Dan. It was a great gift to observe Father Dan close up. He was 100% a priest. Our diocese was so blessed to have him live and minister among us.

Father Dan served very effectively as Editor of the Wyoming Catholic Register. This was during a time when, gratefully, our Catholic newspaper was a weekly publication. He had a very keen eye for what was newsworthy and inspirational.

During those years we, the people of Wyoming were kept well-informed about the life of the Church locally and worldwide.

Father Dan was an excellent homilist. He was always so well prepared. For many years he always ended his homily with this quote from Blessed John Henry Newman:

“In another world it may be different,

but not here below.

To live is to change.

And to become perfect

is to have changed often.”

Educated in Rome and England, Father Dan was on the faculty of St. Thomas Seminary in Denver, teaching Philosophy for a number of years.

Father Dan also spent valuable time as Treasurer of St. Joseph Society, an agency that helps sick and retired priests financially.

All three members of the Colibraro family responded to their vocations to religious life. Father Dan, Father Phil, of Casper, and Sister Mary Carlo of the Sisters of Charity. Bless them!

Father Dan, thanks for your many years of priestly service to the people of Wyoming. You have left your mark upon all you have served. We are all better people because you have lived and walked among us and shared the Gospel.

Be at peace now with the Lord Who loves you and Whom you love.

Thanks,

Msgr. James O’Neill