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Dillon-Baxter Funeral Home

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Rev. Joseph F. Kettner M.S.

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Rev. Joseph F. Kettner, M.S., 77, of The Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, 85 New Park Avenue, Hartford, died Wednesday (March 6, 2002). He was born in San Francisco, CA, April 17, 1924, son of the late Joseph and Alice (Slamin) Kettner. He attended schools in Bronx, NY and Shelton, before entering the La Salette Seminary, Hartford in 1941. He made his First Profession of Vows July 2, 1945 at La Salette Novitiate, Bloomfield. He continued his studies for the priesthood at La Salette Seminary, Milford, Iowa and Ipswich, MA. He was ordained a priest on September 26, 1950 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Hartford by Archbishop Henry J. O'Brien. After ordination he taught at La Salette Seminary, Jefferson City, MO. He volunteered to serve in the La Salette Missions in Burma and left for Burma in June, 1954. He served for 12 years in Burma before returning in 1966. Over the next years he served at La Salette Seminaries in Cheshire, Jefferson City, MO, and Belleville, IL. Fr. Kettner again volunteered to serve in the La Salette Missions in Argentina from 1971 to 1985. Upon returning to the states he served as Parochial Vicar at Good Shepherd Church, Orlando, FL until his retirement to Hartford in May, 1998. Father Kettner is survived by cousins and friends. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, March 9, at 10 a.m. at the La Salette Chapel, 85 New Park Avenue, Hartford. Burial will be in Mount St. Benedict Cemetery. Calling hours TODAY, March 8, from 3-6 p.m. at La Salette Community House, 85 New Park Ave., Hartford. Contributions in his memory may be made to: Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette Retirement Fund, 915 Maple Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114-2330. The Dillon-Baxter Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Published in The Hartford Courant on Mar. 8, 2002

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