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Very Rev. James M. Darby, S.M., Died Suddenly at 52.

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DAYTON, Ohio, April 21, 1969 --- Very Rev. James M. Darby, S.M., Executive Director of the Commission for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), the Roman Catholic Church's national research organization, died suddenly today (Monday, April 21), in the Leonard Neale House, a Jesuit residence in Washington, D.C. He was 52 years old on April 14.

Father Darby, who was born in Williamstown, Pennsylvania, and raised in Philadelphia, had been Provincial of the Society of Mary's Cincinnati Province for 10 years until August, 1968. Provincial headquarters are in Dayton, Ohio. Father Darby was appointed to the CARA position by John Cardinal Krol, archbishop of Philadelphia, last Fall.

Father Darby was co-founder of the national research unit three and a half years ago with Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston. The Center, the result of changes in the Church through Vatican II, was established with the permission of American bishops and Pope Paul VI. During the past six months Father Darby had been working closely with Lawrence Cardinal Shehan of Baltimore, John Cardinal Cody of Chicago, Cardinal Krol and Cardinal Cushing.

As a center for data gathering and problem solving for the Catholic Church in America, the research unit was conducting two studies on the Church's campus ministry in the United States and a manpower analysis to study the deployment of American priests. Both studies were initiated by Father Darby.

Father Darby also had been developing a study for the utilization of the layman in Roman Catholic Church at the time of his death.

Father Darby came to the University of Dayton in 1935 as a new member of the Society of Mary. He took his first vows in August, 1936, and his final vows in August, 1940. He graduated from UD with a B.S. degree in English and received his master's degree in English in 1943.

He was ordained to the priesthood at St. Meinrad Abbey, St. Meinrad, Indiana, on August 24, 1945.

He taught in Marianist high schools in Hamilton, Cleveland and Dayton before entering Harvard University in 1953 to study for his doctoral degree in English. He received the doctorate in 1957 and was appointed Vice President of the University of Dayton on August 15, 1957.

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Following a year in this position he was named Provincial in August, 1958. During his tenure as head of the Cincinnati Province he established Marianist schools and missions in the southern states, Ireland, Australia and Africa. He also was instrumental in creating the Society's New York Province from the Eastern portion of the Cincinnati Province.

Funeral services are pending until the arrival of his brother, Bro. John Darby, S.M., in Washington. Brother Darby is superintendent of Catholic schools in Nassau, The Bahamas. Father Darby also has two sisters, Mrs. Francis Tozar of Philadelphia and Mrs. Thomas Lynch of Chicago.

Requiem Masses will be said in Washington and another in Dayton. Burial will be in the Queen of Heaven Cemetery on the University of Dayton's East Campus.