

History of St. Joseph Parish continued.

1925 – 2003

Father John O'Keefe 1934 - 1935



The next priest to serve St. Joseph was Father John J. O'Keefe. According to one source, he was a pastor alone at St. Francis Xavier in Fort Myers, a church in need of new buildings with six missions to be served as well. The assignment was too burdensome for him. He was suffering from multiple health concerns and returned to the Diocese of Limerick, Ireland. After two years in 1933, he asked Bishop Patrick Barry, then bishop of the St. Augustine Diocese, for a new assignment in Florida. Fr. O'Keefe remained only a year from 1934 to 1935 before returning permanently to Ireland.