

### The Reverend William M. Cremer

Pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Gilbertville, Iowa

Father Cremer was born at Festina, Iowa on August 6, 1875. He received his classical and philosophical training in Salosianum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For his theological training he was sent to Canisianum, Innsbruck, Austria. After ordination to the holy priesthood in Innsbruck on July 26, 1901 he returned to America and was assigned as assistant pastor of St. John's Church, Independence, Iowa. From St. John's he went to the large St. Mary's Parish in Dubuque, where he served as assistant pastor for nine years. In 1912 he was appointed pastor of St. Aloysius Parish, Calmar, Iowa. In turn he served as pastor at Dorchester and Bellevue, Iowa. In 1928 he became pastor of his present parish, Immaculate Conception of Gilbertville, Iowa. He has always been a zealous pastor. In every parish in which he has served he has reflected honor on the priesthood. He has always loyally been devoted to the interest of the Holy See and of the archdiocese. All will be pleased if Father Cremer is named a Domestic prelate of His Holiness.

Copy from the files of the Archdiocese of Dubuque

Statement may have been prepared for the request for papal honors- Edgar Kurt



### William J. Cremer, 1875 – 1969

Born: August 6, 1875, Festina, Iowa  
Parents: William Cremer and Pauline Hennecke  
Elementary: Parish School, Festina, Iowa  
College: Classics: Salesianum, St. Francis in Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
College: Philosophy: K. K. University (Location not identified)  
Theology: The Canisianum, University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria, from which he received a doctorate in moral theology  
Ordained: July 26, 1901, Innsbruck Austria by Right Reverend Simon Aichner

#### Appointments:

1902-1903 Assistant, Saint John Parish, Independence  
1903-1912 Assistant, Saint Mary Parish, Dubuque  
1912-1918 Pastor, Saint Aloysius, Calmar  
1918-1923 Administrator, Saint Joseph Parish, Bellevue  
1928-1965 Pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Gilbertville  
1965-1969 Retired – died July 27, 1969

Father Cremer was a faithful promoter of retreats for the laity, first at the Baptist Bible Camp, and after it opened the American Martyrs Retreat House. He promoted the water system in the town of Gilbertville and installed the service in the parish buildings. He began building the Sacred Heart Grotto in 1935 and finished it in 1938.

Golden Jubilee of Ordination, Gilbertville, 1951

Made Domestic Prelate with title Monsignor, June 27, 1952

Upon retirement, he lived in Dubuque until May 1968, when he entered the Ossian Senior Hospice, Ossian, Iowa, where he died Sunday morning, July 27, 1969.

Funeral: July 31, 1969 Immaculate Conception Church, Gilbertville

Burial: St. Mary Cemetery, Gilbertville

Files of the Archdiocese of Dubuque