

Stitt, Father Ken

Intell June 30/01 p.4 **Father Ken Stitt**
Priest served area for 31 years

A well-known former Quinte-area priest who was instrumental in setting up an ecumenical chaplaincy at Belleville General Hospital died earlier this week.

Father Ken Stitt, who served at St. Michael's Parish from 1970 to 1977, died of a heart attack at his cottage north of Kingston Monday.

His 31-year-career included stints in Kingston, where he served as chaplain and director of pastoral care at Hotel Dieu Hospital, and at St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital and Kingston Psychiatric Hospital.

Most recently, Father Stitt was parish priest of St. Patrick's in Rail-

ton and St. Mary's Parish in Odessa, where he'd been for the last two years.

He gave his final mass at St. Patrick's in Railton the Sunday before his death, and his message to the congregation was one about being a good Christian through one's treatment of others.

Praised by his colleagues as a man whose ministry was about people, Father Stitt — who was born in Cardinal, northeast of Brockville — attended St. Jerome's Resurrection College in Kitchener and St. Paul's University in Ottawa, where he graduated in 1969. He

was ordained a deacon in St. Mary's Cathedral in Kingston and in 1970, became the first priest to be ordained in Cardinal.

He was predeceased by parents, Ken Stitt and Mary Emburgh, and is survived by siblings Connie King of Oakville, Joan Coughler, Roger Stitt, Corinne Miller and James Stitt, all of Cardinal.

Funeral mass was at St. Mary's Cathedral in Kingston Wednesday. Memorial donations can be made to St. Patrick's Church renovation fund in Railton, or to a charity of choice.