

Six Diocesan Priests Mark Silver Jubilee of Ordination

Six diocesan priests will mark the 25th anniversary of their ordination to the priesthood next week. All members of the 1920 Ordination Class of St. Bernard's Seminary.

A seventh member of the same class, the Rev. Joseph Wurzer, late pastor of Holy Ghost Church, Coldwater, died July 28, 1943.

The jubilarians are:

The Rev. John M. Bakays, Pastor of St. George's Lithuanian Church, Rochester.

The Rev. William E. Hayes, Pastor of St. Anthony's Church, Graton.

The Rev. Robert A. Keleher, Pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Rochester.

The Rev. Francis J. Lane, Chaplain of Elmira Reformatory, Elmira.

Rev. Patrick A. Monahan, Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church, Rochester.

Rev. J. Edmund O'Brien, Chaplain, professor of Apologetics and Ethics at Elmira College for Women and Chaplain of the Monastery of the Dominican Sisters of the Perpetual Rosary, Elmira.

Father Keleher at Rochester will mark his silver anniversary on Sunday, May 27. Father Lane at Elmira will observe his jubilee Tuesday, May 29 when a Testimonial Communion Breakfast in honor of the occasion will be given by officers and inmates of Elmira Reformatory.

Father Bakays will hold a formal celebration next month.

The other jubilarians are making no public observance of their anniversaries.

Of the six jubilarians five were ordained on May 29, 1920 at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Roch-



Rev. John M. Bakays



Rev. Robert A. Keleher



Rev. Francis J. Lane



Rev. J. Edmund O'Brien

ester, by the Most Rev. Patrick Grimes, late Bishop of Buffalo. On the same day, Father Bakays

was ordained at Hartford, Conn. by the Most Rev. John Nilan, former Bishop of Hartford.

Fr. Keleher's Jubilee Mass

The Rev. Robert A. Keleher, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Rochester, will observe his Silver Anniversary in the

Diocese of Rochester on Sunday (May 27) when he will celebrate a Solemn High Mass at 10:30 A. M. in the parish church.

Assisting him at the Jubilee Mass will be the Rev. Emmett Magee as deacon and the Rev. Leo Smith as subdeacon.

The Rt. Rev. Magr. William J. Hergen, Chancellor of the diocese, will preach the jubilee sermon.

Following the Mass clergy friends and members of Father Keleher's family will attend a private dinner in his honor.

Parishioners of St. Charles will hold a reception for their pastor tomorrow evening (Friday, May 25) at St. Charles Borromeo Hall.

On next Tuesday (May 29) the children of St. Charles School will join with their pastor at another Solemn High Mass which will be celebrated by Father

Keleher at 8 A. M. The Choir will sing this Mass under the direction of the Sisters of Mercy.

The Rev. Francis Forney and the Rev. Daniel B. O'Rourke will act as deacon and subdeacon respectively.

Father Keleher was born at Shortsville, N. Y. November 14, 1883. He studied at Shortsville High School.

He prepared for the priesthood at the diocesan seminaries of St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's and was ordained May 29, 1920 at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Rochester, by the Most Rev. Patrick Grimes, late Bishop of Syracuse.

Following ordination he was appointed assistant pastor of St. Ann's Church, Hornell, where he served for eleven years.

On September 19, 1931 he was appointed assistant pastor of Corpus Christi Church, Rochester, where he remained until June 17, 1933 when he was appointed to his present position as pastor of St. Charles Bor-

Bishop to Lead Testimonial For Reformatory Chaplain

Marking the Silver Sacrodotial Jubilee of the Elmira Reformatory Catholic Chaplain, the Rev. Francis J. Lane, officers and inmates will join in a Testimonial Communion Breakfast, Tuesday, May 29. His Excellency, the Most Rev. James E. Kearney, will attend the testimonial beginning at 10 a. m.

Work of the Rev. Francis J. Lane, a St. Bernard's Seminary Silver Jubilarian, this year, among inmates of Elmira Reformatory, is extolled in a special "Don Bosco Bulletin" edition out May 15. The "Bulletin" is published by and for the Reformatory's inmates.

Due to his efforts at the Reformatory, Father Lane was elected President of the National Association of Prison Chaplains in 1939 and reelected in 1940 and 1941, national honors acclaimed by the inmates in their publication.

"It is for helping us to see and overcome our faults, and offering us a chance to return and further our religious duties, that we wish to thank him from the bottom of our hearts," the paper's editorial says of Father Lane. "For the comfort and understanding he has shown us, a reward, greater than man can give is his due."

A silver cover on the "Bulletin" bearing Father Lane's photograph highlights in headlines the important events of his career as Catholic Chaplain at the Reformatory. Chief of these was the dedication by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney on June 28, 1933, of St. Don Bosco Chapel, in which the Bishop celebrated the first Solemn Pontifical Mass ever to be celebrated in a penal institution.

Father Lane's career is outlined in the "Bulletin's" editorial. His birth in Rochester is record-

ed and his ordination to the Holy Priesthood on May 29, 1920. Mention is made of Father Lane's special interest in boys' work at Immaculate Conception Parish, Rochester, where he organized a Cadet Band and orchestra and the first Catholic Boy Scouts in Rochester.

Named by Archbishop Thomas F. Hickey to the Chaplaincy in Elmira Reformatory on March 4, 1922, Father Lane began a career which the Bulletin extolls in detail. He was named to the Board of Managers as one of the original members of the Classification Board at the Reformatory. He still serves on this Board and is also a member of the Assignment and Screening Boards.

As the years went along he instituted the practice of interviewing inmates mothers and arranged for reduced rates for families to visit the Reformatory.


He arranged for a Catholic room in the Elmira Reformatory Hospital opened Aug. 17, 1932, and instituted a yearly mission which brought praise from Dr. Frank Christian, former Reformatory Superintendent.

Father Lane organized the Holy Name Society and the Knights of St. Don Bosco in administering to the inmates' spiritual needs and discovered the need for a Chapel. In 1934 he began to raise funds for a chapel which was furnished and paid for by the time it was completed in 1938.

In the new chapel in the Reformatory, Midnight Mass has been offered, Perpetual Novena in honor of St. Don Bosco established and Lenten services were carried out.

Father Lane helped found the "Don Bosco Bulletin," first copy of which appeared on May 23, 1940.

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