

# St. George's Parish To Mark Golden Jubilee

## Bishop Kearney Will Preside, Preach At Mass

St. George's Lithuanian Parish, 337 Hudson Ave., will mark its golden anniversary Sunday, Nov. 30, with solemn high Mass at 11 a.m.

Bishop Kearney will preside at the Mass and will preach the sermon.

REV. FRANK VALKEVICIUS, church pastor, said that a jubilee banquet for the people and friends of the parish will be held at 5 p.m. in the school hall.

John Levickas and Peter Kravonis are co-chairmen of the jubilee celebration. They are being assisted by Peter Waske, John Moran, Artanas Sabalis, Frank Yanajis, Alvin Chapas, Kazimieras Nakas, John Slicks, Henry Millevich, Roman Bludnikas and Peter Pikunas.

THE PARISH had its actual beginnings in 1906, when 140 Lithuanians from Rochester pledged support of the organization of a Lithuanian parish, selecting St. George the Martyr as its patron.

At the time of its organization there were no Lithuanian priests in Rochester, so priests from that mid-European country from surrounding cities made periodic visits to Rochester in care for the spiritual needs of their countrymen.

At the start, Mass was celebrated for them at Holy Redeemer Church, Hudson Ave., whose pastor, Rev. Jacob Staub provided for separate facilities in his parish church.

BISHOP BERNARD J. McQuaid, first Bishop of Rochester, approved the efforts of the Lithuanians to erect their own parish church and with funds pledged, they proceeded to purchase property for the construction of their own church.

Rev. Vincent Virginda was appointed first pastor of St. George's Church in January, 1908. He remained for three months and was replaced by Rev. Joseph Krasnickas, who was pastor for a similar period.

During this period, church activities were continued at Holy

Redeemer. After Father Krasnickas left St. George's, Rev. J. F. Goggin of St. Bernard's Seminary celebrated Mass for the Lithuanian colony until Rev. Joseph Kasakaitis was appointed pastor in 1910.

DURING HIS first year as pastor, Father Kasakaitis began construction of a combination building, consisting of a church, school and basement, used as a hall.

Bishop Thomas F. Hickey, second Bishop of Rochester, blessed the cornerstone of the building in July, 1910 and in December of the same year dedicated and blessed the new \$18,000 edifice.

Father Kasakaitis lived at 1006 Clifford Ave. until 1925, when a new rectory was constructed at a cost of \$28,000.

The present St. George's school was started in 1920, with four lay teachers as instructors.

FOLLOWING THE death of Father Kasakaitis in 1930, Rev. John Baksys became pastor and he invited the Franciscan Sisters from Pittsburgh, Pa. to staff the parochial school, which had been expanded to eight grades.

The present St. George's Church was begun under the direction of Father Kasakaitis and completed in 1935 under Father Baksys' direction.

The old church edifice was turned into a new parish hall and was first used for that purpose in 1935, when a concert and play were presented to the public.

DURING THE war years, 150 young people served in the armed forces, with six giving their lives. At the war's conclusion, a memorial to these people was erected in the vestibule of the church.

Four young men from St. (Continued on Page 2A)



FATHER Francis J. Reilly, right, holds plans as he discusses the start of the building project for a new St. Mary's school, Horseheads, with Father David B. Singerhoff, assistant pastor.

## Work Started On St. Mary's School

Construction has started on the new St. Mary's School, Horseheads, with an opening date scheduled for September, 1959.

The building will include eight classrooms, principal's office, health room, kitchen and an all-purpose room that may be utilized for cafeteria purposes.

This all purpose room will also be used for Sunday Mass to take care of the rapidly expanding Catholic population living in and near the Horseheads area. The seating capacity of the room will be over 600, twice the size of the seating capacity of the present church.

THE \$250,000.00 building project is on an eight-acre site about a mile west of the present church property. The master plan provides for the ultimate construction of a new church, rectory and convent. A playground and parking space for 200 cars is also included in the plans.

Rev. Francis J. Reilly, pastor, stated that "eventually the parish will be one of the largest in the area; based on present home building activities and the fact that there is ample room for future home and business expansion in the Horseheads vicinity."

Father Reilly stated that there have been about 100 baptisms in the church each year for the past five years compared to about 12 per year back in 1936.

Five Masses are offered each Sunday with an overflow attendance at three of these Masses. The school will open with three, four or five grades. It is expected that the initial registration will be in excess of 200 students.

Southern Tier Edition  
**Courier Journal**  
**News**  
Friday, Nov. 28, 1958 1-A

## Holy Name Men Elect

Rev. William J. Schifferl will address the Holy Name Society meeting of St. John the Baptist Church, Elmira on Monday, Dec. 1 at 8 p.m.

Father Schifferl, chaplain at the State Agricultural and Industrial School at Industry has travelled extensively through Europe for the past five years and has taken numerous pictures in color. He will show some of the pictures along with his lecture on "Rome, the Eternal City."

Charles Ruhmel, society president invites all men of the parish to hear the lecture. Refreshments will be served by Joseph C. Schifferl and his committee.

EXTERIOR VIEW OF St. George's Lithuanian Church, Hudson Ave., Rochester. The church is celebrating its golden anniversary Sunday with a jubilee Mass at 11 a.m. Bishop Kearney will preside and preach. (Courier photos by Paul Confestabile.)

## Fisher Faculty In Study Program

Members of St. John Fisher College's faculty participated in a Canadian American Studies Program sponsored by the University of Rochester. The conference was held at Woodward House in LeRoy.

Representing the college were Very Rev. Charles J. Lavery, C.S.B., president; Fathers Leo J. Munnely and Russell Pendergast and Dr. John Murray of the history department.

## Forty Hours Starts At St. Peter and Paul's Church

Forty Hours Devotion will open in Saint Peter and Paul's Church this Sunday, Nov. 30th, at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. Traditionally, this devotion begins in the mother parish of Elmira on the opening Sunday of the new liturgical year, the First Sunday in Advent.

Services will be held on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. The sermons will be delivered by Rev. Edmund Delaney, S.A., a Franciscan Friar of the Atonement, from St. John's Atonement Seminary in Montour Falls.

His subject will be, "Our Hearts Were Made for Thee," Sunday, and "That I May Know Thee," Monday. On Tuesday the devotion will close with solemn high Mass, liturgy and procession.

On Monday and Tuesday Holy Communion will be distributed at 6 and 6:30 a.m. Mass will be offered at 7 and 8 a.m.

Confessions will be heard after devotions on Sunday and Monday evenings, and in the afternoon between 4 and 5.

## Niagara Alumni Name Officers

Ray Mahon was named president of the Rochester chapter, Niagara University National Alumni Association, to succeed John A. Woloson at a meeting of the group in Our Lady of Victory Church Hall.

The group also named Thomas Gibbons, vice-president; Marvin Parker, corresponding secretary; James Greig, recording secretary; and James Farrell, treasurer. John Grownier, Arthur Buckley and Dominic D'Ambrosia were chosen as directors.

Rev. George E. Krock, C.M., executive secretary of the national group, is chairman of the local unit.

## Lourdes Parish Mass Schedule

A new schedule of Sunday Masses has been announced by the Very Rev. Leo G. Schwab, V.E., pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Elmira to take effect at this time. The Sunday Masses are now at 7, 9, 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 noon.

## Squires Circle

Shortsville.—Father John E. Napier Circle of Columbian Squires is being organized in St. Dominic's Church, sponsored by the Canandaigua Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Albert Ryan, vice chairman of the State Youth Committee of the K of C, is helping to organize the group, with Ralph Ritz as chief counsellor, and Father Leo Hastings as prior.

On Sunday, Dec. 14, the boys will attend the 8:30 Mass and receive Communion, after which they will have a father and son breakfast in the church hall. At 2 p.m., they will be invested as charter members of the circle.

So far, 19 boys have signed up. They are Richard Boardman, David Johnson, Richard Cirulli, William Ryan, William Betz, Lowell Dunlap, Louis Liberti, John Del Gatto, John Liberty, William Morgan, Richard McCarthy, James Capron, Edward Clark, James Bolan, William Boardman, Roger Fish, William Girard, Richard Prout and Gary Romeser. The circle meets every Thursday evening.

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FOCAL POINT of interest in St. George's Church, is the magnificent sanctuary that is adorned with a mural of Our Lady of Silhua, on the left, revered by Lithuanian people everywhere, among other beautiful apertennances.

## St. Andrew's Seminary To Mark Patronal Feast

Bishop Kearney will celebrate the Mass and preach the sermon on the patronal feast day of St. Andrew at St. Andrew's Seminary, Buffalo Rd., Rochester on Monday, Dec. 1, at 10 a.m.

Officers of the Mass will be Reverend Fathers Albert J. Shannon and Joseph Lynch, deacons of honor; Raymond M. Kenny, deacon; John F. Cavanaugh, sub-deacon, and David M. Murphy, crucifer. The seminary choir will sing.

## Forty Hours

Devotions of the Forty Hours will be conducted in the following churches of the Diocese of Rochester:

Sunday, Nov. 30 — Sacred Heart Cathedral, St. John the Evangelist, St. Mary, St. Patrick, Rochester, St. Mary, Auburn; and SS. Peter and Paul, Elmira.

## Parents Meeting Set At Seminary

Very Rev. Richard M. Quinn, rector of St. Andrew's Seminary, has announced that a home-school meeting will be held at the seminary, Buffalo Rd., Rochester from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30.

Parents will be given the opportunity to meet with the minor seminary's faculty members, Father Quinn said.

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