

CHAPLAIN AT THE PUBLIC SERVICE



At the Burnham building teen-age girls come out from their residence and cluster around Father Barrett as he stops in his walk across the grounds.

Newark State School, an institution for the mentally retarded, has a new chaplain, Father William Barrett. After "my first uneasy tour of the wards" in August, 1970, Father Barrett became a full-time assistant to Father Charles Bauer and began special education courses at Geneseo College.

Now, after nine months of "on the job training" and two semesters at the college, Father Barrett is fully accredited and feels "ready to be the Catholic chaplain."

The therapeutic program at Newark State includes physical, mental and spiritual care. "Many Catholics from the northern part of our diocese are here — just a few less than a thousand," explains Father Barrett. His part in their care is "to be their parish priest, their chaplain, their friend."

On June 1, the new chaplain received his certification for work in institutions for the mentally retarded from the Religious Certification Agency for Retardation, and took over from Father Bauer. Father Bauer retired from state service at the end of May to start his new duties as director of Special Religious Education for the Rochester Diocese.

Father Barrett was transferred last September from his parish assignment at St. Alphonsus in Auburn to Newark State. While working as an assistant chaplain during his training period, he also did pastoral work at St. Thomas parish in Red Creek and at St. Patrick's in Cato.

Regular Masses are said at the school in the gymnasium, half of which is converted to a chapel by folding panels. The sanctuary accomodates several faiths by using interchangeable furniture.



Vesting for the Mass.



Leaving the general education building, Alvin Harrison asks a question.



...iding combs the hair with Father Barrett Baptism.