

# Priest Here Named Bishop Deaths

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

Father Patrick Ekpu came to Rochester as a summer assistant but is going home to Nigeria as a bishop.

On Saturday, Aug. 21, he was named by Pope Paul to be co-adjutor bishop to Bishop Patrick Kelly, 77, of the Benin City, Nigeria, diocese. A co-adjutor bishop has the right to succeed the current bishop immediately upon his death or retirement and has all the rights and privileges of the bishop.

Father Ekpu, who has been in Rochester since June as an assistant pastor of St. Augustine's Church, has worked in parishes in the United States for four summers. This was his first assignment in Rochester.

While in Rochester he has been finishing his doctoral thesis in sociology from Boston University. He received his MA

in sociology at Boston College in 1969.

Father Ekpu will become the 13th black Catholic bishop in his native Nigeria. There are 14 European bishops in his country, which has about 3 million Catholics.

Father Ekpu became a Catholic at 15, was ordained a priest when he was 31 and appointed a bishop at 39.

He grew up in the "traditional African religion," he said. He was baptized a Catholic at age 15 while attending a Catholic school. Ordained in July, 1963 he was immediately made pastor of a new Church in Nigeria and later was administrator of another parish for three years.

Because of the turmoil in his country during the Biafran war, Father Ekpu said, he has been unable to return home



FR. EKPU

since 1967 when he came to Boston to study.

His diocese is just west of Biafra, and his home town of Uromi is only seven miles away. "But I do not wish to talk about Biafra," he said.

While the Catholic Church in the United States is finding fewer candidates for the priesthood, Father Ekpu said, he is thankful his diocese and country are "blessed with vocations . . . We suffer from a lack of priests also, but it is because we don't have the funds to educate the boys who want to go to seminaries."

He will return to Nigeria for ordination as bishop in mid-September but expects to return to this country occasionally seeking monetary help from parishes here.

As a bishop he will administer a diocese that has a large parochial system, a major and minor seminary, three hospitals and two leper settlements, 70 priests and two communities of Sisters. Half of the diocesan clergy are natives, the others are Europeans, principally Irishmen.

"Our black clergy need leadership by their own people. That is why the Vatican has recently been naming so many black priests to be heads of new dioceses and auxiliaries in others. In Africa as in the U.S., the communication between the bishops and their priests must be improved," he explained.

Father Ekpu is the second African to be named a bishop while working in Rochester. Bishop Raphael Ndingi of Kenya had just graduated from St. John Fisher College in 1969 when he was appointed to the new diocese of Machakos, Kenya. He was ordained bishop by Pope Paul himself later that summer when the Holy Father made a state visit to Uganda.

## Nazareth Centennial Observances Set

A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan as the first event in Nazareth Academy's coming centennial celebration.

The mass will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Sunday Sept. 19, at 3 p.m.

Former members of the Perosian Choir will sing the Mass.

A centennial reception on the academy grounds is slated to follow the Mass.

Bishop James E. Kearney will be the guest of honor and main speaker at a banquet scheduled at the Holiday Inn, downtown, Saturday, Oct. 9, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Other events scheduled in the year-long festivities are a concert in March, a faculty dinner in April, a pageant and open house in May, and a ball in July.

## Sr. Agnes Joseph, 96

Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated Monday morning at the Nazareth Motherhouse Chapel for Sister Agnes Joseph Edelman, SSJ. Born in Rochester in 1875, she entered the Community of Sisters of St. Joseph in 1896.

Msgr. Albert Schnacky celebrated the Mass; concelebrants were Fathers Joseph Reinhart, Joseph Sassa, and James O'Neill, OSFS. Present in the sanctuary were Msgr. John M. Duffy and Father John O'Malley.

Sister Agnes Joseph passed away Aug. 19, 1971 five years after her retirement from teaching duties.

After entering the Sisters of St. Joseph, Sister Agnes Joseph taught for three years at St. Patrick's Cathedral School, then in 1901 spent a year teaching English in Bommlanden Normal School in Germany,

where she took private instruction in the violin.

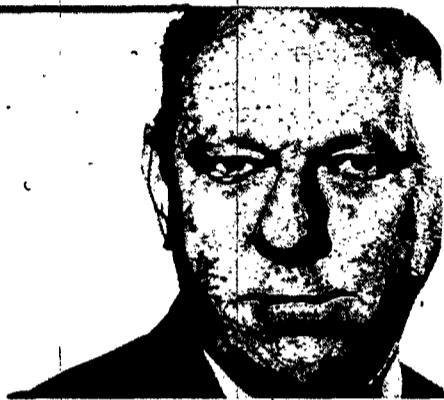
Back in the U.S., she taught music at Nazareth Academy, and in 1908 assisted in establishing the St. Agnes Conservatory of Art and Music on East Main Street, Rochester, where she taught harp, piano, and stringed instruments. In 1939, as new director of the conservatory, Sister Agnes renovated the building to make quarters for St. Agnes High School.

In 1956, Sister Agnes Joseph moved to the new site of St. Agnes High School on East River Road, where she continued teaching until her retirement.

Sister Agnes' academic background included a baccalaureate in music from St. Elizabeth's College, Convent Station, N.J., a B.A. from St. Bonaventure, and advanced studies at the Eastman School of Music.

BOB CONSIDINE

## On the Line



Our space people feel compelled repeatedly to justify the cost of Apollo.

"This country won't turn its back on a \$20 billion investment about to pay off," said Oliver C. Boileau, Boeing vice president for aerospace, in a recent speech.

It will, indeed, unless the pertinence of these great adventures is brought home to the average bloke whose taxes make space probes possible. It was simpler in the earlier chapters of exploration. In addition to expanded knowledge, the adventurers brought back gold, precious stones and fabrics, spices to preserve the rotting meats of Europe, slaves, and the deliverance of limitless new lands for colonization and exploration. Apollo brings back rocks.

It has brought back and sent back much more than rocks, of course. But the program's booty is not generally something that can be touched, smelled, eaten or readily exploited by Joe Blow.

Oliver Boileau, and so many others, wrestled with that problem. He told a Boeing management group in New Orleans that Apollo, and the space effort in general, has given the country the "tools to assess the environment and to use (the earth's) resources more effectively. Satellites in earth orbit will benefit communications, education, agriculture and navigation. If we decide not to avail ourselves of this vantage point in space, it will be one of mankind's most regrettable decisions."

Other bold moves in history have paid off, he reminded his audience:

"There are confident persons in government with vision who are willing to move out, take some chances, and make these things happen." He then mentioned the resolved doubts in Ferdinand and Isabella's minds about the first voyage of Columbus; the Louisiana Purchase. ("The State of Louisiana, constituting only 5 per cent of the \$15 million deal, in a single year paid back more than \$600 million in minerals alone.")

He might have mentioned "Seward's Folly," the \$7.2 million purchase from Russia of what is now our 49th State, more than twice the size of Texas — 586,412 square miles of beauty, wonder, and untold

riches. (It cost us \$800,000 less than the little lunar buggy in which Astronauts Scott and Irwin took three rides on the moon and then parked for all eternity.)

Boileau's chief pitch to management — which should have been made to the public — is that the space shuttle program, which will follow Apollos 16 and 17, will produce tangible benefits to the denizens of this planet. The space labs the shuttles will supply with scientists and technicians will attend to tasks which all of us can discern: warnings against nature's cataclysms, discovery of virgin mineral deposits, location of untapped fish preserves capable of feeding the billion or so human beings who go to bed hungry every night, etc., etc.

This particular extension of the Apollo program will cost about one tenth of the present cost per launch and recovery. The booster, instead of falling back and burning up in the earth's atmosphere after getting the payload off the pad at Cape Kennedy, will sprout wings and its crew will land it like a big conventional plane. After it has done its various jobs in earth orbit — delivering fresh crews, consumables and equipment, and repairing ailing un-manned satellites — it will also glide back and land on earth, for refueling, refurbishing and return to space.

Only then, one would guess, will the public understand that it wasn't buying only rocks.

## K of C Urges School Aid

New York—(RNS)—The top policy body of the Knights of Columbus appealed here to public officials in the U.S. to support the enactment of legislation providing financial assistance to non-public school students.

In a strongly worded resolution, the Knights Supreme Council declared that "all persons under the democratic system of government are guaranteed the free exercise of religion and equal protection of the laws," and that government assistance is necessary to provide for such rights in education.



## UNTAMED ELEGANCE FROM JERRY SILVERMAN

The rare beauty of leopard has been captured by Shannon Rogers in this luxurious coat of 100% wool. It has the soft feel and sophisticated look of real leopard, accented with leather belt, buttons and slit pockets. Wear now as a dress and when the winds blow, wear over your dress as a coat. Misses sizes, \$130. McCurdy's Fashion Gallery, Second Floor, Midtown.

McCurdy's