

Six Diocesan Priests Observe 50th Jubilees

Six diocesan priests account for 300 years of service to the Church this year as members of the ordination class of 1933. The six are Fathers William A. Burns, Francis M. Feeney, Orrin W. Feller, Alexander J. Stec, Francis H. Turner and Frederick L. Walz.

Father Burns lives at St. James in Waverly, having retired from the pastorate of St. Anthony's Church in Elmira six years ago.

He was born in 1907 in Kansas City, Mo. He attended Ss. Peter and Paul School and St. Patrick's School in Elmira, Elmira Free Academy, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries, and Niagara University.

He was ordained June 10, 1933 by Bishop Emmett Walsh in the Rochester cathedral.

He was first assigned to St. Monica's Church. In 1935 he was named to the faculty of Aquinas Institute, and in 1936 to Elmira Catholic High School, where he served first as vice principal and then as principal.

In 1953 he was made pastor of St. Anthony. He accepted the chaplaincy of the Elmira Knights of Columbus in 1955.

Father Feeney lives on Hatch Road in Webster. He retired in 1979 after 30 years at the helm of St. James Church, which he founded.

A Rochester native, Father Feeney attended Corpus Christi School, and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

He was first assigned to the assistant pastorate of Blessed Sacrament Church, then to the same post at Holy Apostles, then to St. Ignatius Loyola in Hornell, and finally to St. Charles Borromeo in Rochester.

He was named by Bishop Kearney to found the parish of St. James in 1949.

Father Feller is a native of Milwaukee, Wis. He attended St. Monica School here and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. In addition, he earned a BA at Fordham University and an MA at Niagara University.

His first appointment was to the faculty of Aquinas Institute.

In 1942, he was made assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in Dansville, and in 1950, pastor of St. Patrick, Moravia and St. Ann, Owasco.

Due to failing health, he resigned his pastorate in 1956, returning to St. Mary as assistant. Two years later, he was named administrator of the Dansville parish, and later that year was appointed assistant at Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

In 1966, he was named assistant at St. Patrick's Church in Victor. Father Feller officially retired in 1979 and now resides on Empire Boulevard in Webster.

Father Stec, a Rochester native, attended St. Bridget's School and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He also later did advanced studies at the University of Cracow, Poland.

He was first assigned to St. Michael's Church in Newark and then to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Following a two-year study assignment in Poland, Father Stec, in 1938, was named priest-in-charge at St. John in Newark Valley and St. Francis in Catatunk



FATHER FEENEY

with residence at St. Patrick in Owego.

He was named Newark Valley pastor in 1942, a post he was to retain for 21 years.

In 1959, Father Stec was given the pastorate of St. Stanislaus Church in Rochester. In 1966, the priest was given a copy of the famed icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa by Polish primate Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński. Father Stec retired in 1978 with the title of pastor emeritus at St. Stanislaus, where he still resides.

Father Turner now resides in N. Fort Myers, Fla., where he moved after his 1976 retirement.

He attended Holy Rosary School and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries, and was first assigned assistant pastor of St. John the Evangelist in Clyde. In 1935, he was named assistant at Ss. Peter and Paul in Rochester, and, two years later, to St. Peter and Paul in Elmira.

In 1941, Father Turner was appointed to St. John the Evangelist in Greece, where he served until an assignment as administrator of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Auburn in 1943. Later that same year, he was made pastor of St. Bernard's Church in Scipio Center, a post he held until 1950 when he was made pastor of St. Catherine's Church in Addison.



FATHER BURNS

He was assigned as pastor of St. Felix in Clifton Springs in 1960.

In 1965 he was given the pastorate of St. Mary of the Lake in Watkins Glen, and, five years later, the pastorate of St. Francis in Phelps.

Father Walz is living at St. Andrew in Rochester. Born in 1907, he attended Holy Redeemer School, St. Mary's Seminary in Burkettsville, Ohio, and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

His first assignment was as assistant pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, then to assistant at St. Boniface and then to Holy Apostles, all in Rochester.

In 1946, he was named assistant pastor of St. John the Baptist in Elmira from the assistant pastorate of St. Vincent's Church in Corning.

In 1954 he was made pastor of Our Lady of the Lake in King Ferry and All Saints in Ludlowville. Eight years later Father Walz took on the pastorate of St. Mary's Church in Dansville.

In 1965, following a term as assistant pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul in Rochester, Father Walz assumed the pastorate of St. Patrick's Church, Rochester.

He resigned that post in 1971 and was named chaplain at the infirmary of the Sisters of St. Joseph. He retired in 1977.



FATHER FELLER



FATHER STEC



FATHER TURNER



FATHER WALZ

Father Geck Notes 60th

Father Howard W. Geck, a resident at The Heritage, will celebrate 60 years in the priesthood for the Diocese of Rochester June 10.

He attended Ss. Peter and Paul School and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries. He was ordained in 1923 in the Rochester cathedral by Bishop John Gregory Murray.

He was first assigned assistant pastor of St. Michael's Church, a post he held until 1928. He taught at St. Andrew's Seminary from 1929 to 1948, when he was named pastor of St. Paul of the Cross, Honeoye Falls. Also during that period he served several years as chaplain to the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

He remained as pastor un-



FATHER GECK

til 1962, when he retired active pastoral work due to ill health and was named pastor emeritus.



100th Birthday

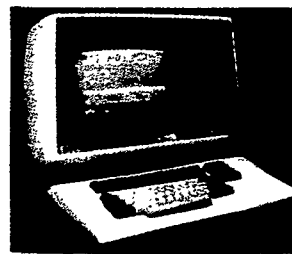
Members of the Holy Rosary Society of St. Stanislaus Parish recently honored Michalena Adamski, a 50-year member of the society, on her 100th birthday. Standing behind Michalena are, from left, Ceil Politz, Theresa Kierecki and Maria Laskowski.



Honoree

Robert A. Kidera (right), president of Nazareth College, congratulates Sister Marie Michelle Peartree on her receipt of an honorary degree at the college's 56th annual commencement. Sister Marie Michelle is president of St. Ann's Home and The Heritage. Other honorary degrees were given to Dr. Robert Sproull, president and chief executive officer of the University of Rochester, and Naomi Burton Stone, editor, author and literary agent who delivered the main address to the 638 graduates.

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