

Jubilarians

ard's seminaries.

Father Gramkee was appointed associate pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Ithaca in 1966. He was then named associate pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes, Brighton (1971-74), St. Mary's, Auburn (1974-75), and St. Louis, Pittsford (1975-79).

Father Gramkee served as chaplain of the Elmira Correctional Facility, Reception Center and Camp Monterrey from 1979-82, later serving as pastor of St. John the Baptist/St. Cecilia's churches in Elmira until December, 1989. On Jan. 1, 1990, Father Gramkee became pastor of the Eastside Catholic Parishes with the addition of St. Peter and Paul Church.

Father Frank J. Falletta, pastor of St. Lawrence Church in Greece since 1984, was born on Nov. 11, 1940, to Charles and Stella (Tornabene) Falletta, current parishioners of St. Cecilia's Church in Rochester.



He attended Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School as well as St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

Father Falletta's first assignment was as associate pastor of St. Anthony's Church in Elmira in 1966. He served there until 1972, when he was named associate pastor of St. Theodore's Church in Rochester. Father Falletta's subsequent assignments as associate pastor at St. John of Rochester (1981-83) and St. Michael's, Newark (1983-84), were followed by his appointment as pastor of St. Lawrence in 1984.

Father Lawrence A. Gross, pastor of Holy Apostles Church in Rochester since 1983, was born Oct. 1, 1940 to Frank A. Gross Jr. — a parishioner of Holy Apostles Church, Rochester — and the late Eva (Boss) Gross. He attended Holy Family School in Rochester before going on to St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's.



Father Gross's first assignment in 1966 was as associate pastor of Holy Name of Jesus Church in Rochester. In 1971, he was appointed chaplain of Bishop Kearney High School. After leaving Kearney in 1982, Father Gross served one year as associate pastor at St. Thomas the Apostle in Rochester.

Father William C. Michatek, pastor of St. Michael's Church in Penn Yan since 1982, was born Oct. 10, 1940 to Chester W. and Elizabeth (Cotter) Michatek, current parishioners of St. Helen's Church, Rochester.



The Gates native attended St. Helen's School before graduating from St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

Father Michatek was appointed associate pastor of St. Lawrence Church in Greece. His subsequent assignments as associate pastor were at Holy Trinity, Webster (1969-75),

St. John of Rochester, Fairport (1975-81) and Holy Ghost, Rochester (1981-82).

Father Thomas F. Nellis, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church in Clyde and the mission church of St. Patrick's in Savannah since 1983, was born July 7, 1939. He is the son of Ann (Sanderl) Nellis of Rochester and the late Lawrence Nellis.



After attending St. Andrew's Grammar School and the Aquinas Institute, the Rochester native graduated from St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. Father Nellis also obtained a master's degree in liturgical studies from the University of Notre Dame.

Father Nellis was named associate pastor of St. Mary Our Mother Church in Horseheads in 1966. He remained in Horseheads until 1972, when he was appointed associate pastor of Holy Ghost Church until 1976. Father Nellis served as associate pastor of St. Alphonsus Church from 1976-79, before becoming associate pastor of St. Cecilia's in Rochester from 1979-83.

Father Gerald T. O'Connor, pastor of St. Stanislaus Church in Bradford and St. Joseph's in Campbell since 1982, was born to the late Francis B. and Helen Louise (Carey) O'Connor, on May 10, 1940.

He attended St. Patrick's, Elmira Catholic High School and Notre Dame High School before graduating from St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. Father O'Connor's first appointment was as associate pastor of St. Thomas More Church in Brighton. From 1968-71, Father O'Connor served in the Spanish Apostolate, located at St. Francis de Sales in Geneva.

From 1971-79, Father O'Connor served as associate pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Elmira. After serving as associate pastor of St. Mary of the Lake Church in Watkins Glen from 1979-82, he served for six months at St. Francis de Sales before being named pastor of St. Stanislaus/St. Joseph's.

Father Foster P. Rogers, pastor of St. Alphonsus Church in Auburn since 1986, was born to Mary Elizabeth (Murphy) Rogers, a parishioner at St. Francis Church in Phelps, and the late Ernest Foster Rogers.



The Romulus native attended Romulus Central School, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. Father Rogers' first appointment was as associate pastor of Christ the King Church in Irondequoit. He later served as associate pastor of St. Patrick's in Elmira (1969-73), St. John the Evangelist in Greece (1973-75), Church of the Assumption in Fairport (1975-79) and St. Alphonsus in Auburn (1979-86).

Father Laurence Tracy, currently serving as Rochester-area pastoral assistant for the diocesan Office of the Spanish Apostolate, was born to the late Norman and A. Marguerite (Fuehrer) Tracy on March 14, 1940.

The Rochester native attended St. Michael's Grammar School before going on to St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

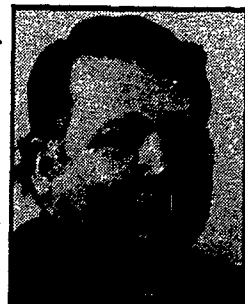
He was appointed associate pastor of Ro-

chester's Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in 1966. In 1970, he was appointed co-pastor of the Rochester parish along with Father Raymond Booth.

Father Tracy was re-appointed pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in 1975, where his co-pastors were Mercy Sisters Regis Straughn and Carol Fox.

After leaving Mt. Carmel, he was named associate director of the diocesan Division of Social Ministries for Hispanic Affairs in 1981. A year later, Father Tracy was appointed associate pastor of St. Andrew's Church which he served until joining the Spanish Apostolate in 1983.

Father Thomas H. Wheeland, pastor of Holy Cross Church in Rochester since 1982, was born to the late Daniel J. and Anna (Lane) Wheeland June 7, 1939. A native of Elmira, he attended St. Peter and Paul's, St. Patrick's, Elmira Free Academy and Notre Dame High School before graduating from St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.



Father Wheeland was appointed associate pastor of Holy Rosary Church in Rochester in 1966. He served at Holy Rosary until 1970, when he was named associate pastor of Christ the King. Two years later, he became associate pastor of Sacred Heart Cathedral, where he served until 1982.

Two religious-order priests serving in the diocese also are celebrating their 25th jubilees.

Father Timothy F. Keating, CSSR, is currently serving as the rector of the Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua.

A native of Brooklyn, he was born Dec. 30, 1940 to Mildred Keating of Brooklyn and the late John Keating.

Father Keating attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Brooklyn, St. Mary's Prep School in North East, Pa., and Mt. St. Alphonsus Seminary in Esopus, N.Y. He was ordained in 1966.

He obtained his licentiate in Sacred Theology at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and also did graduate studies at St. Michael's College in Toronto.

Father Keating was part of the Notre Dame Retreat House staff from 1980-87. He then joined the staff of the San Alphonso Retreat House in Long Branch, N.J. from 1987-90, before returning to the retreat house as rector in 1990.

Father Nelson J. Ruppert, OFM, Cap., pastor of Holy Cross Church in Ovid, was born to the late John J. and Mary Patricia (Conlon) Ruppert on Sept. 2, 1939.



The native of Yonkers, N.Y., attended St. Joseph's Elementary School, Cathedral High School in New York City and St. Mary's Minor Seminary in Garrison, N.Y. He entered the Capuchin order in 1958 in Milton, Mass. Father Ruppert graduated from St. Anthony College in Hudson, N.H., and Capuchin Theological Seminary in Garrison. He obtained a master's degree in library science from Catholic University of America in 1968.

Since his ordination to the priesthood in Yonkers in 1966, Father Ruppert has served as assistant librarian (1968-71) and later as director of the Central Library (1971-81) at the International College of the Capuchin Order in Rome.

After serving as parish and community vicar at Sacred Heart Parish in Yonkers from 1981-84 — during which time also served as administrator of Sacred Heart High School from 1981-83 — he became guardian of the Capuchin community at St. Fidelis Friary in Interlaken, and pastor of St. Francis Solanus Parish in 1984. In 1989, he became administrator of Holy Cross Church, Ovid, where he was named pastor in September, 1990.

Compiled by Rob Cullivan and Richard A. Kiley.



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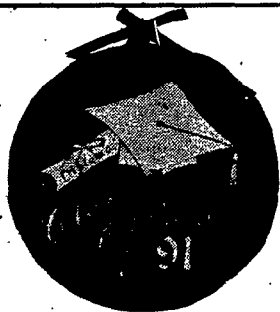
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