

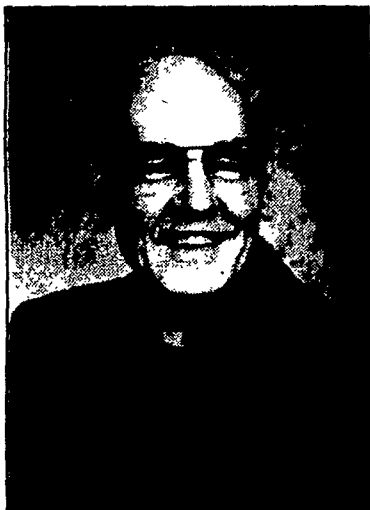
# Milestones

## Priest treasures memories

**HONEOYE FALLS** — When Father Otto J. Vogt steps down from his pastorate at St. Paul of the Cross in Honeoye Falls this June, the Wayland native said he will be taking with him many memories from 45 years of active ministry.

After his ordination on June 3, 1950, Father Vogt's first assignment was as assistant pastor at Rochester's St. Boniface Church. He later served as assistant pastor at Holy Cross, Ovid, and Sacred Heart, Romulus, for a short time before he was assigned the same position at St. Mary's Church, Dansville, from 1967-68.

Father Vogt noted that, among his ministerial highlights, were: beginning the pre-Cana program while serving as assistant pastor at Immaculate Conception in Ithaca (1954-60); his duties as chaplain at Elmira College while serving as assistant pastor at St. Patrick's, Elmira (1960-67); his selection as vice president of the Elmira Council of Churches in 1968; "the new life in faith in the church after Vatican II;" driving through the hills for Christmas Mass from St. Joachim's, Canisteo, to St. Mary's, Rexville, while serving as the parishes' pastor from 1968-75; and the opportunity to serve as chaplain for ambulance and fire calls while serving as pastor of St. Paul's since 1975.



"There are so many areas of enjoyment and sharing that were very meaningful," Father Vogt said, adding, "but not without some concerns or challenges."

As for his 20 years at St. Paul's, Father Vogt said, "It's hard to capture all the dimensions of ministry in a small church. You can look at the people in the back pew and know who they are."

Father Vogt noted that he will miss "the love of the people and children of St. Paul of the Cross. I'll miss people tooting their horns at me as I walk down the street just to say hello."

At the same time, he is looking forward to moving to the rectory at Brighton's Our Lady of Lourdes Church and "the challenge of a new lifestyle among the people of Lourdes."

A party for Father Vogt has been scheduled for 4:30 p.m. Sunday, June 11, at the Burgundy Basin Inn, 1361 Marsh Road, Pittsford. Please call 716/624-1443 for information.

— Lee Strong

## Fr. Callan enters 'vespers'

**IRONDEQUOIT** — Father L. James Callan was honored by his parishioners at a dinner and dance on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, exactly 50 years from his ordination date.

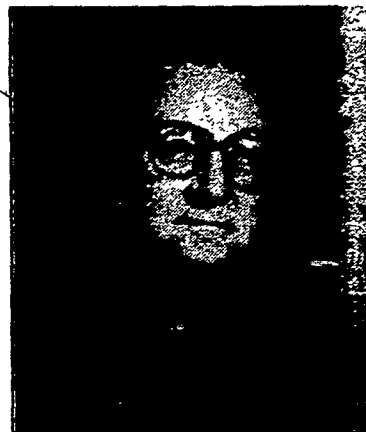
In addition to the parish celebration, the 75-year-old pastor has invited his fellow jubilarians and Bishop Matthew H. Clark to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving on Wednesday, May 10, at 11 a.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 4536 St. Paul Blvd.

Father Callan, the Irondequoit church's pastor since 1982, noted that he has yet to make plans for where he plans to live or what he plans to do in his retirement, which starts this June.

"As Pope John XXIII said I'm in the vespers of my life so I better say my prayers," Father Callan joked.

He added that he plans to set aside time to read up on Western cultural history and the impact Catholicism has had on civilization in both Europe and the Western Hemisphere.

Father Callan was born in Rochester and was baptized and confirmed at Corpus Christi Church.



Following ordination, he served as assistant pastor at several parishes: Holy Rosary, Rochester; Ss. Peter and Paul, Elmira; and St. Patrick's, Elmira, all during the spring and summer of 1945.

In October of that year, he went on to serve as assistant pastor at St. John the Evangelist, Clyde/St. Patrick, Savannah, until 1950, when he took up assistant pastor duties at St. Louis in Pittsford.

Father Callan became chaplain at Rochester State Hospital in 1955. While there, he directed efforts in the mid-1960s to build St. Jude's Chapel, which was completed in 1969.

— Rob Cullivan

## Pope advocates religious development special devotion to Blessed Virgin

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY** — Religious men and women should have a special devotion to the Virgin Mary and should see her as their model in following Christ, Pope John Paul II said.

"Mary is the virgin of the virgins. She has been recognized since the first centuries of the church as the model of consecrated virginity," the pope said March 29 at an audience.

Continuing a series of audience talks about religious life, the pope said Mary's "desire to preserve her virginity" was no less surprising and countercultural in her day as it is for modern religious.

"It is time to re-evaluate virginity in the light of Mary," he said. "It is time to repropose it to young men and women as a serious way of life."

Outlining ways that Mary is a model for religious, the pope said:

She reminds religious that a vocation is an unmerited gift from God.

She shows a complete openness to the working of God's grace in her life.

She is a woman of faith who actively participates in "the fulfillment of a divine design which according to human understanding would appear to be impossible."

Mary is a model of complete and continuing devotion to Jesus.

## Small-town pastor plans inner-city ministry

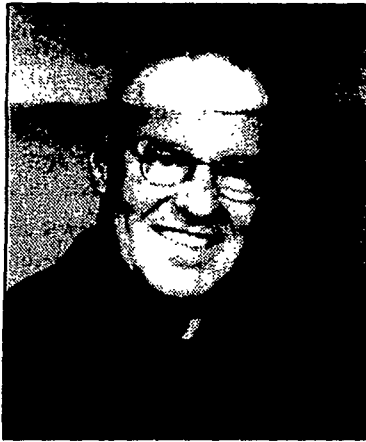
**RUSH** — He had served in 10 parish assignments during his previous 32 years as a priest.

But after Father Richard C. O'Connell arrived at St. Joseph's Church in 1983, he became firmly rooted as its pastor for the next 12 years.

"I come from a small town, and I like the small-town atmosphere," the Clifton Springs native said. "That's why people from the city like coming here, too."

Father O'Connell, who will retire from St. Joseph's in June, has enjoyed the people, as well as the setting, of this parish located in the southernmost portion of Monroe County.

"I've never asked for anything they didn't respond to,"



Father O'Connell said of his parishioners.

Father O'Connell was born April 28, 1925. He attended Clifton Springs Central School, and entered St. Andrew's Seminary out of his home parish of

St. Felix Church. He went on to St. Bernard's Seminary and was ordained June 2, 1951.

Father O'Connell's parish assignments, prior to St. Joseph's, were as: assistant pastor at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Rochester (1951-54) and St. Rita's Church, Webster (1954-61); administrator at St. Dominic's Church, Shortsville (1961); assistant pastor at St. James Church, Rochester (1961-64), Holy Rosary Church, Rochester (1964-66) and St. Agnes Church, Avon (1966-69); and pastor at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Addison (1969-72), St. Mary's Church, Dansville (1972-78), Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Elmira (1978-82), and St. Cecilia's and St. John the

Baptist churches in Elmira (1982).

Although Father O'Connell has relished the largely rural setting of St. Joseph's, he plans to switch gears in his retirement. His current plans include working among the inner-city poor at Rochester's Roman Catholic Community of the 19th Ward while living at St. Monica's Church.

"I think that's what the Gospel calls us to," Father O'Connell explained.

A retirement party for Father O'Connell has been scheduled for Friday, June 9, at 6:30 p.m. at Wild Wood Country Club in Rush. Please call St. Joseph's at 716/533-1719 for details.

— Mike Latona

## Fr. James Marvin to retire

**ROCHESTER** — Scheduled to retire this June, Father James J. Marvin, pastor of St. Ambrose Church, 25 Empire Blvd., since 1971, said he hopes to continue in pastoral work wherever he is needed in the diocese.

"I was going to play for the Chicago Bulls," he joked in reference to the recent return of Michael Jordan to the Bulls — dashing the pastor's hopes for a potential second career.

The 70-year-old pastor said he has thoroughly enjoyed his 47 years in the priesthood.

"I lived life to the fullest, and I'm going to continue to live life to the fullest," he remarked.

St. Ambrose Parish will honor the priest at an 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 25, to be followed by a reception.

A native of Macedon, Father Marvin was baptized and confirmed there at St. Patrick's.

Following ordination, he served as assistant pastor at the



following parishes: St. James, Waverly, from 1948-51; Holy Rosary, Rochester, from 1951-56; Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester, from 1956-62; and St. Andrew's, Rochester, from 1962-67.

Father Marvin was named pastor of St. Joseph's, Wayland, in November, 1967, and served there until he was named pastor of St. Ambrose.

— Rob Cullivan



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