

Jubilarians mark decades of service

65 YEARS



Father Joseph McNamara is originally from St. Michael's Parish in Montezuma. He attended St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries in Rochester and was ordained June 3, 1939.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Mary's in Auburn from 1939-43; chaplain at Cornell University from 1943-46; assistant pastor of Sacred Heart pro-Cathedral in Rochester from 1946-47; assistant pastor of St. Charles Borromeo in Elmira Heights from 1947-49; chaplain at Elmira Classification Center, which served men between the ages of 16 and 21 who were headed to prison or

a reformatory, from 1949-61; and pastor of St. Anthony's in Groton from 1961 until his retirement in 1981.

During his two decades of leadership, he oversaw the building of a new church, rectory and hall. After his retirement, he remained at St. Anthony's until 1996, when he moved to St. Pius Tenth in Chili.

60 YEARS



Father Gennaro Ventura grew up in Holy Apostles Parish in Rochester and attended Aquinas Institute, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries, all in Rochester.

Although he is a member of the ordination class of 1944, he was ordained Dec. 18, 1943, by Bishop James E. Kearney at Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Father Ventura served as assistant pastor at Rochester's Our Lady of Mt. Carmel for two months in 1944; assistant pastor at St. Francis Xavier in Rochester from 1944-47; assistant pastor at Mt. Carmel from 1947-56; administrator of St. Lucy's in Rochester from 1956-57, then pastor from 1957-61; pastor of Mt. Carmel from 1961-68, as well as consultant for the Rochester Housing Authority in 1968; pastor of St. Francis DeSales in Geneva from 1970-80; and pastor of Holy Ghost in Gates from 1980 until his retirement in

1989.

Father Ventura is well-known in the diocese for his involvement with youth and participation at teen retreats, where he is known as Father "Ace" Ventura. He's also stayed busy since his retirement by creating stained-glass windows and lamps, making wine, gardening and doing carpentry work.



Father John Walsh is originally from St. Stephen's Parish in Geneva. He attended Geneva's St. Stephen's School and DeSales High School, as well as Rochester's St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

He was ordained on June 3, 1944, by Bishop James E. Kearney at Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral. He completed his graduate studies at Catholic University, the universities of Ottawa, Villanova and Marquette, Boston College, the Pontifical Gregorian University and the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas.

Father Walsh served as assistant pastor at Immaculate Conception in Ithaca from 1944-50; Holy Cross in Rochester from 1950-51; St. Margaret Mary's in Irondequoit from 1951-54; St. Mary's in Elmira from 1954-59; St. Joseph's in Penfield from 1959-60; and St. Mary's in Auburn from 1960-67. He founded the campus-ministry programs at Ithaca College and Elmira College, and served as Ithaca's chaplain from 1944-50 and Elmira's chaplain from 1955-59.

From 1960-67 he was chaplain at Auburn Community College, which is now known as Cayuga Community College.

In 1967 Father Walsh became founding pastor of St. Paul of the Cross in Webster, and remained there until his retirement in 1988, when he moved to St. Margaret Mary in Irondequoit. In 1998, he took up residence at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Rochester.

Although he enjoyed all his ministries, Father Walsh said that campus ministry was especially rewarding and challenging at the same time.

"Young people are starting to gain knowledge and they're very curious about learning, so they have a lot of interesting questions," he said.

55 YEARS



Father James Doyle is a native of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Rochester. He attended St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries in Rochester and was ordained

June 11, 1949, by Bishop James E. Kearney at Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Mary of the Lake in Watkins Glen from 1949-51; Holy Trinity in Webster for three months in 1951; Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Brockport from 1951-57; Holy Rosary in Rochester from 1957-62; Holy Redeemer in Rochester from 1962-65; and St. Ambrose in Rochester from 1965-69.

In 1969, he was named pastor of St. Rose in Lima, where he remained until his retirement in 1999. Being able to help and listen to parishioners has been one of Father Doyle's favorite parts of ministry, he said.

Father Doyle served as chaplain for the Lima Fire Department while he was pastor of St. Rose, and was also chaplain for the Rochester Fire Department while he was assigned to parishes in Rochester. Whenever there was a fire call, he would go to the scene and work with the other

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Answers from page B23 (No. 39)

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