

## AUBURN PRIEST MARKS ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

**Father Berard Dudek, OFM Conv.**, pastor of St. Hyacinth Church in Auburn, celebrates his 50th anniversary of ordination this year.

He grew up in St. Casimir Parish in Baltimore, Md., and was ordained June 24, 1954, at St. Michael's Cathedral in Springfield, Mass.

He served as a teacher at Buffalo's Bishop Ryan High School from 1954-70, and was principal from 1970-71 prior to the school's closing; assistant pastor at St. Casimir in Baltimore from 1971-76; pastor of St. Stanislaus in Baltimore from 1976-82; associate pastor of Baltimore's Basilica of the Assumption from 1982-84; chaplain for the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph in Hamburg, N.Y., from 1984-85; vicar provincial of the St. Anthony of Padua Province in Baltimore from 1985-88; pastor of three parishes in Shamokin, Pa., from 1988-94; associate pastor of Baltimore's St. Casimir from 1994-95; associate pastor of St. Casimir in Riverside, N.J., from 1995-96; pastor of Baltimore's St. Casimir from 1996-97; and pastor of St. Anthony's in Bridgeport, Conn., from 1997-2001, when he became pastor of St. Hyacinth.

Father Dudek said he's enjoyed the variety he's experienced in his vocation.

"I think the most important part of being a priest is ministering to people. I just delight in doing God's work," he said.

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ney on June 5, 1954, at his home parish.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Monica's in Rochester from 1954-58; St. Alphonsus in Auburn from 1958-64; St. Ann's in Hornell from 1964-68; and St. Joseph's in Penfield from 1968-71.

In 1971, Father Connor became diocesan director of vocations and spiritual director of Becket Hall. He served in these positions until 1977, when he became pastor of St. Pius Tenth in Chili. He remained there until his retirement in 1998.

Parish work, and especially celebrating Sunday Mass, has always been one of his favorite aspects of his vocation, Father Connor said. He enjoys building relationships with parishioners and being there for them, many times at milestones in their lives.

"You belong to them and they belong to you; it's a very strong relationship. There's a tremendous variety in a parish. You cover the whole gamut of human emotions and feelings. It's a whole experience of life," he said.



**Father Robert Egan** grew up in St. Alphonsus Parish in Auburn, attended St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries in Rochester and was ordained June 5, 1954, by

Bishop James E. Kearney at Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Father Egan served as assistant pastor at Blessed Sacrament in Rochester from 1954-58; St. Mary's in Waterloo from 1958-59; Immaculate Conception in Rochester from 1959-62; St. Jerome's in Rochester from 1962-67; and St. John the Evangelist in Clyde from 1967-72.

In 1972 Father Egan was named

pastor of St. Bernard's in Scipio Center and its mission parishes, St. Hilary in Genoa and St. Isaac Jogues in Fleming. He became pastor of St. Anthony Parish in Groton in 1981 and remained there until his retirement in 1997.

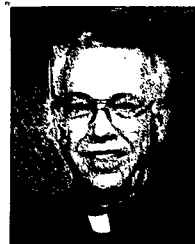


**Father Francis Erb** is a native of St. Ambrose Parish in Rochester. He attended Aquinas Institute and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries, all in Rochester,

and was ordained June 5, 1954, by Bishop James E. Kearney at Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Father Erb served as assistant pastor at St. Patrick's in Elmira from 1954-60; St. Michael's in Rochester from 1960-61; and St. Rita's in Webster from 1961-68. He was assistant pastor at Sacred Heart in Auburn for four months in 1968; at St. Mary's in Elmira from 1968-72; and at St. Anthony's in Rochester from 1972-73.

In 1973 he became pastor of St. Pius V in Cohocton, and in 1975 he was named pastor of St. Joachim in Canisteo and St. Mary's in Rexville. Father Erb was named pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Addison in 1976, and he retired in 1993.



**Father Robert Kreckel's** home parish is St. Boniface in Rochester. He attended St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries in Rochester and was ordained June

5, 1954, by Bishop James E. Kearney at Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Alphonsus in Auburn from 1954-60; assistant pastor of Immaculate Conception in Rochester from 1960-66; pastor of Immaculate Conception from 1966-73; founding pastor of Fairport's Church of the Resurrection from 1973-85; and pastor of St. Mary's of the Lake in Ontario from 1985-92. In 1992 he took a sabbatical to Mexico to learn Spanish so he could minister more effectively to the area's migrant community.

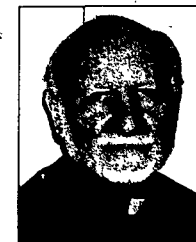
Working with minority groups was enriching, he said.

"They just have so much to offer. I got more out of working with them than they got out of my ministry," Father Kreckel said.

Father Kreckel retired in 2003 and has since been living and assisting



at St. Joseph's in Penfield.



**Father David Murphy** grew up in St. Mary's Parish in Auburn and attended St. Andrew's Seminary in Rochester. Although he is a member of the ordination class of

1954, he was ordained in Rome by Bishop Martin J. O'Connor on Dec. 19, 1953. He received a licentiate in sacred theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome in 1954, a master of arts degree from Cornell University in 1956, a philosophy doctorate from the University of Ottawa in 1971 and a doctorate of sacred theology from St. Paul University in 1973.

In 1964, Father Murphy became academic dean at St. Andrew's Seminary, where he taught from 1956-65. During that time he also served as director of campus ministry at Rochester's Eastman School of Music and Wells College in Aurora. In 1959 he became administrator of St. Patrick's in Aurora and St. Michael's in Union Springs. From 1966-72 he served as academic dean at St. Bernard's Seminary, where he was a professor of dogmatic theology. He has held various other positions at St. Bernard's, including vice rector, procurator and assistant treasurer, and has taught at many other universities, including Northeastern University, Emerson College and Boston University.

From 1967-72 and 1976-90 Father Murphy served as a consultant to the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Priestly Formation, and from 1972-76 served as executive director of the seminary department of the National Catholic Education Association. In 1979 he became one of the founding members of the National Academy of Ecumenists. Over the years, Father Murphy has produced more than 150 television programs, including a series on searching for meaning, and authored many articles on a variety of topics, including Catholic education, theology and communication.

"I've just always enjoyed the process of learning and then using that learning I've received to impart to others," Father Murphy said.

Father Murphy currently lives in Massachusetts.



**Father John Rosse** grew up in St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Rochester. He attended Rochester's St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries and was ordained

on June 5, 1954, by Bishop James E. Kearney at Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral.

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