Rev. Frs. Louis C. Shea, left, and Robert Morris, new assistant pastors at two Decatur Catholic churches, look over the construction site for the new St. Teresia High School gymnasium. Fr. Shea is assistant at St. James Church; Fr. Morris at St. Thomas Church.

New Priests at 2 Parishes

Fr. Morris at St. Thomas; Fr. Shea at St. James

Rev. Frs. Louis C. Shea and Robert Morris have taken up their duties as assistant pastors at St. James Catholic Church and St. Thomas Catholic Church, respectively.

Both men are natives of Springfield. Fr. Morris, 51, is a brother of Rev. Fr. John Morris, assistant pastor at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church here from 1943 to 1947. Fr. John Morris is now pastor of the Lillyville church.

Fr. Robert Morris was ordained a priest on April 17, 1949, and first served as assistant pastor of St. Patrick’s Church, Pana.

From there he was assigned to St. Joseph’s Church, Granite City. His place at the Granite City Church has been taken by Rev. Fr. Anthony Tamulis, who Fr. here.

Fr. Shea, 26, is the son of George E. Shea, Springfield. He was ordained a priest last June 4 at the Pontifical College Josephinum, Worthington, Ohio, by Giovanni Cicognani, apostolic delegate to the United States.

Fr. Shea completed his high school, college and seminary training in 12 years at the Ohio school. He explained that the college, once an orphanage and later a seminary to train German-speaking priests, is now a seminary headed by the apostolic delegate in Washington and serving all dioceses in the United States.

An aunt, Mother M. Imelda, is a member of the Ursuline order of nuns at St. Teresa Academy.