Changes Announced

2 Parishes Get Assistant Pastors

Two of Decatur's Catholic parishes have been assigned an assistant pastor for the first time.

Holy Family and Our Lady of Lourdes churches are the newest of the five Catholic parishes.

The Rev. Stephen Schoeneweis, a newly ordained priest from Edwardsville, has been appointed as the first assistant pastor at Holy Family Church. Our Lady of Lourdes Church's assistant pastor will be the Rev. Leo Sestak, who has been assistant pastor at Christ the King Church in Springfield.

Bishop William A. O'Connor of the Springfield Diocese also announced the transfer and replacement of three assistant pastors at two other Decatur churches.

The Rev. Roy Bauer, who has been at St. Thomas Church since 1963, has been assigned as assistant pastor of St. Anthony Church in Effingham.

Both assistant pastors at St. James Church have been transferred. The Rev. James O'Hara will go to St. Rose Church in Quincy. He will also be assistant director of Catholic Charities.

The Rev. Kevin Sullivan will go to Sacred Heart Church in Granite City.

St. Thomas Church's new assistant pastor will be the Rev. Walter Weerts, currently at Sacred Heart Church in Granite City.

The Rev. Richard Peradotto of Alton and the Rev. John Savoree of Taylorville will be the new assistant pastors at St. James Church. Father Peradotto is a former Decatur resident.

Other assignments by Bishop O'Connor include that of the Rev. Bernard Meyer, former assistant pastor at St. Thomas Church. He has been assigned to St. Mary's Church in Taylorville.

The Rev. Louis Shea, former assistant at St. James Church, will become assistant chaplain at St. John's Hospital in Springfield.

All assignments are effective June 22.