34 priests get new posts

By KIM LARSEN
Of The Gazette Staff

Thirty-four priests serving the Catholic Diocese of Great Falls-Billings have received new assignments from Bishop Thomas J. Murphy. Several of the assignments affect Billings parishes.

The changes:
- The Rev. Harold Arbanas, administrator of St. Philip X Parish, Billings, was named co-pastor of St. Catherine in Great Falls.
- The Rev. Bill Cowley was appointed as full-time chaplain and teacher at Billings Central Catholic High School. In 1977, Cowley was named as the school's principal and has served as principal there since then.
- The Rev. David Day, pastor of St. Joseph's Parish, Great Falls, will become rector of St. Patrick's Co-Cathedral, Billings, Nov. 13, when Monsignor Andrew J. Zarek retires. Day will continue as your general administrative deputy to the bishop.
- The Rev. Charles Garnese, co-pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Billings, was assigned to the Newman Center and Sacred Heart Renewal Center, both in Billings.
- The Rev. William Hogan, co-pastor of St. Peter and Paul, Great Falls, was named co-pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle, Billings.
- The Rev. Mark Kirvan, Newman Center chaplain in Billings, was named pastor of St. Philip Benedict Parish, Saco.
- The Rev. Kevin Malone, who has served at both St. Philip X and St. Patrick's in Billings, has been named associate pastor of St. Joseph's Parish, Great Falls.
- The Rev. Martin Fishner, O.S.B., pastor of St. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Parkway, has been assigned to Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Billings.
- The Rev. Walter Jansen, S.J., pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, has accepted a new assignment in Puerto Rico.
- The Rev. Jack Kletz, associate pastor of St. Joseph's in Great Falls, was named pastor of St. Cyril and Methodius, Parkway Parish. He will continue as co-director of the Cerullo Movement.
- The Rev. Emmett Hoffman, O.F.M., Cap., was reassigned from St. Bernard's Parish, Billings, to full-time ministry with the Toledo Diocesan Conferences.
- The Rev. David Reichling, O.F.M., Cap., was assigned to St. Bernard's, Billings.
- The Rev. Jerry Getten, O.M.I., was assigned to Little Flower Parish, Billings.
- The Rev. Tom Bregan, who has served at St. Leo's in Lewistown and Our Lady of Loreto in Great Falls, was named pastor St. Mary's Parish, Lewistown. He will continue as vicar for missions.
- The Rev. Jim Bickmeyer, co-pastor in Lewistown, was appointed pastor of St. Mary's Parish, Lewistown.

Murphy expressed concern about parishes having to take on multiple assignments in the future because of the priest shortage.

Many priests presently serving by a resident priest will continue to have this service, but there has been a severe reduction in the number of priests available to staff parish communities,

Religion

The Rev. John Conn, pastor of parishes in Malta and Scalp, was named pastor of St. Mary's in Chester.

The Rev. Jerry Combest has taken over pastoral duties at Sacred Heart Parish, Bridge, after a year's sabbatical leave.

The Rev. John Dziekan, who last served as pastor in Moore, will become pastor of St. Cyril's Parish, Great Falls. Gronauer will complete his sabbatical leave at the University of Notre Dame in August. He will continue as executive secretary of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission.

The Rev. Robert Fox, administrator of Sacred Heart Parish, Black Eagle, since 1978, was named pastor of St. Raphael's in Glasgow.

The Rev. Tom Harter, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Bridge, was named pastor of St. Joseph's in Great Falls.

The Rev. Dennis Kenyon, pastor of St. Benedict's Parish, Billings, was granted a leave of absence.

The Rev. Joe Magnum, administrator of St. Cyril's, Great Falls, was named pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Black Eagle.

The Rev. Frank Kelly of Sacred Heart Parish, Great Falls, was appointed priest-administrator of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

The Rev. Jay Peterson of St. Leo's, Lewistown, was appointed chairman of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission.

The Rev. Charles Mena, who has had several pastoral assignments, was named pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Black Eagle.

The Rev. Jim Reinhardt, who was assigned to teaching and duties at the College of Great Falls, was granted a sabbatical leave to continue his education.

The Rev. John Schedler, associate pastor of St. Lawrence Parish, Great Falls, was named pastor of St. Mary's Parish, Malta. He will continue as director of missions for the diocese.

The Rev. Rene Petk, O.P., pastor of St. Mary's, Chester, was granted a sabbatical leave for studies.

The Rev. Charles Robinson, O.F.M., Cap., assigned to Mount St. Mary, was assigned to St. Charles Parish, Pocatello.

The Rev. Randy Grzyb, O.F.M., Cap., assigned to the Pryor parish, was granted a sabbatical leave for studies.

The Rev. Larry Schwind, O.F.M., Cap., and The Rev. John Guinard, O.F.M., Cap., were assigned to missions to Native Americans.

Anticipating questions from parishioners disappointed over losing their pastors, Murphy said priests are not ordained to serve one community or parish exclusively.

"Changes in assignments offer the priests the opportunity to share their gifts and talents with many communities throughout their priesthood within a diocese," Murphy said. "Each priest has different charisms to offer and each parish community has unique needs and challenges.

Religion news

The Gazette welcomes news on religious activities which will be of interest to readers of The Gazette's group's own membership. "In the Churches" will publish announcements of sermons and talks to be given by persons other than the church pastor.

News items should be typed if possible, and sent to Kim Larsen, Gazette Newsroom, P.O. Box 357, Billings, MT 59103, or brought to the newsroom. Give the name and phone number of the person sending the information. Reports must be received no later than 4 p.m. Thursday for Saturday's paper.