

## Rev. Richard J. Welch

The North Adams Transcript, May 28, 1953

### Granted Absence Leave

Rev. Richard J. Welch, formerly of Adams, assistant pastor of Notre Dame church, Pittsfield, has been granted a leave of absence by Most. Rev. Christopher J. Weldon, bishop of Springfield, and is to leave in about two weeks for California for an extended vacation.

Fr. Welch, who is visiting his sister, Miss Margaret Welch of 4 Valley street, plans to go to Boston next week to visit his nieces there. He will observe the 27th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood June 5.

Fr. Welch, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Richard Welch, is an Adams native, attended the Adams schools and was graduated from Adams high school and St. Lawrence college, Montreal, Canada.

He was ordained to the priesthood June 5, 1926, at St. Michael's cathedral, Springfield, by the late Most Rev. Thomas M. O'Leary.

Before his assignment to Notre Dame parish, Pittsfield, in 1941, he was curate in six other parishes, serving at Sacred Heart, Northampton, before coming to Pittsfield.