

**New Local Pastor
Honored by 500
Former Parishioners**

The Berkshire Eagle, February 16, 1961



The Rev. John R. Klekotka

The Rev. John R. Klekotka, who was assigned to the Holy Family Church here recently, was honored Sunday by more than 500 former parishioners and friends at an informal testimonial supper at Kusciusko Hall, Greenfield.

Father Klekotka was pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Greenfield, for 18 years. He was presented a purse by the parishioners, a second purse by the White Eagles and Sacred Heart Societies and a gift from the Knights of Columbus.

Father Klekotka served as curate at Holy Family about 20 years ago. He was appointed a synodal examiner by the Most Rev. Christopher J. Weldon, bishop of the Springfield diocese, several years ago.

Born in Northampton, he studied at the Don Bosco Institute in Ramsey, N.J., and at St. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake, Mich., before being ordained in Springfield in 1923. He celebrated his first Solemn High Mass in St. John Cantius Church, Northampton, his home parish.

Before being assigned to Sacred Heart in April, 1942, Father Klekotka served in Indian Orchard, Webster, Millers Falls, Springfield, Clinton and Turners Falls.