

Rev. Henry A. Murphy; headed parish 8 years

POINT PLEASANT — The Rev. Henry A. Murphy, who had served as pastor of St. Martha's Roman Catholic Church, here, since its founding in 1972, died of cancer yesterday at the parish rectory on Newark Avenue.

Father Murphy was 53. He was born in County Wexford, Ireland, and came to this country in 1952.



He was assigned by the Most Rev. George W. Ahr, former bishop of Trenton, to establish St. Martha's parish, and he said Mass at the Nellie Bennett Elementary School and at the King's Grant Inn until the new church and community center on

Herbertsville Road was completed in 1976.

Before coming here, Father Murphy served at St. Anthony's Church, Red Bank. During the 1960's he served for five years at St. Joseph's Church, Toms River. He had also been assigned to Holy Spirit Church, Perth Amboy.

He attended Christian Brothers School, County Wexford, and Mount Mellery College, County Waterford, Ireland. He completed his schooling at St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, and was ordained in 1956 at St. Mary's Cathedral, Trenton.

Surviving are his mother, Sarah Grace Murphy, Ferns, Ireland; two brothers, Thomas B. Murphy, Dumont, and Seamus J. Murphy, the Bronx, and two sisters, Mrs. Sarah Bailey and Mrs. Rosaleen Dunbar, both Ferns.

The Colonial Funeral Home, Brick Township, is in charge of arrangements.