

The Rev. John M. Merklinger, 58, spiritual director of seminarians at St. John Fisher College, died of a heart attack last night (May 5, 1970) in Becket Hall, the seminarians' campus residence.

Father Merklinger, a native Rochesterian, studied for the Roman Catholic priesthood at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries and was ordained here in 1937.

He was assistant pastor at St. Francis of Assisi Parish here from 1937 to 1942, when he was transferred to St. Ann's Parish in Hornell.

Father Merklinger was appointed chaplain for Strong Memorial and Municipal hospitals in 1945 and served until 1957.