

Rev. M. Eric Diskin

going to Shadyside

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The **Rev. M. Eric Diskin**, who has served as assistant pastor at Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church since July of 1979, will be leaving the area at the end of next week to assume new duties as assistant in the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Shadyside.

Rev. Diskin received a call about his transfer on Saturday morning and first announced it to members of the parish at the weekly Mass that evening. He is reportedly being moved because of a shortage of priests in the diocese.

A farewell party will be held in his honor at 7 **p.m.** Sunday in the Catholic Center. The event is open to the public.

Prior to arriving in the Ellwood City area in 1979, **Rev. Diskin** served as assistant pastor at the St. Paul Church in Butler. He served his diaconship with the Purification BVM church during the summer and fall of 1974 and was ordained in the local church on Feb. 22, 1975.

During the past two years, **Rev. Diskin** has been active in the church's youth group and adult education program. He also served as coordinator of liturgical **ministers**, working specifically with



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acolytes, servers and readers, and spent much of his time teaching seniors in the CCD program and working with the children in the parish school.

His new church has both a grade school and high school, so his duties will probably vary, he noted.

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Rev. Diskin commented that when he was a deacon here, he "felt enriched by the warmth and concern of so many people. Returning to Ellwood City was like a homecoming," he added. After serving here two years, he feels he can "leave a fuller man because of the many contacts with people I've had."

He especially feels his work with the young people "has been precious because the young people are precious and a great resource."

"After working nine years in Lawrence and Butler counties, I used to think that if I was ever reassigned to the city it would be a real culture shock," **Rev. Diskin** said. "I may ache for the open fields and somewhat predictable pace of Ellwood City," he added.

"I will just always have an affection for Ellwood City and its people," the assistant pastor concluded.

Rev. Diskin, who is scheduled to take up his new duties on Nov. 27, will serve as principal celebrant and homilist at the 9 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass, it was reported.

Born Jan. 18, 1948, in Pittsburgh, he received his elementary education at St. Henry's Elementary School in Pittsburgh and his secondary education at St. Meinrad Seminary in Indiana. He attended St. Paul's Seminary in Pittsburgh and Duquesne University, where he received his bachelor of arts degree in philosophy. He then attended St. Vincent's Seminary in Latrobe where he earned his master of divinity degree.