



FATHER GILLES BOYER

Rev. Gilles Boyer new pastor of St. Edwards Church

The Rev. Gilles Boyer, a native of Canada who has served his church in Louisiana for 16 years, has been appointed pastor of St. Edwards' Catholic Church in Tallulah.

Father Boyer replaces the Rev. Belton Scallia, who was transferred to St. Matthews' Catholic Church in Monroe after serving here for two years.

Father Boyer has served for the past year as pastor of St. Clement's Church in Vivian-Oil City.

Born in St. Andre Avellan, Quebec, Canada, Father Boyer is one of nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. George Boyer. He made his ecclesiastical studies at St. Therese Seminary in the province of Quebec and also at the Ottawa Major Seminary in Ontario, Canada. He taught in Bourget College in Quebec for one year.

The new St. Edwards' pastor was ordained for the Diocese of Alexandria by Bishop Charles P. Greco on November 1, 1954 at Maryhill Seminary, Pineville, La.

Prior to coming to Tallulah, Father Boyer had been assistant pastor at St. Rita's Church in Alexandria and St. Alphonsus' Church in Hessmar, La. until 1961. He was then named pastor of St. Genevieve's in Brouillette, La.

While there, he was involved in a near-fatal automobile accident in Pineville. Unconscious for 23 days, he was confined to Baptist Hospital in Alexandria for three months.

After a slow recovery from his accident, Bishop Greco appointed him administrator of St. Anthony's Church in Cottonport in January, 1963.

Father Boyer later served as pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Marksville, St. Anthony's Church in Bankie and pastor in the church in Rabin, La. with missions in Carmel and Benson before being transferred to Vivian and Oil City.

Upon advising Father Boyer of his transfer to Tallulah, Bishop Greco had the following to say:

"I take this occasion to thank you and commend you most highly for the very eminent services you have rendered at Vivian and Oil City. And believe me I will understand the sorrow and disappointment the good people will have because of your leaving. And I am sure that with God's continuing grace and your own very priestly qualities, and zeal particularly, you will also render great service, in your new field of apostolic labors."

Father Boyer said that he has been welcomed most graciously by the people of Tallulah, and is looking forward to serving here.