

# Lansing priest to be ordained



Rev. Mr. William Thomas

Rev. Mr. William Thomas, 40, a native of Lansing, will be ordained a priest for the Catholic Diocese of Lansing in a service next Saturday in Schoenstatt, West Germany.

Most Rev. James S. Sullivan, auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Lansing, will officiate at the ordination in the Holy Trinity Church.

**THE SON** of Mrs. Clarence A. Neitz and the late Wesley E. Thomas, the candidate for the priesthood became a member of the Catholic Church in 1972 while living in Berlin, West Germany.

A graduate of Eastern High School, Thomas received a BA degree from Calvin College in 1961.

After teaching in Eaton Rapids High School from 1961 to 1965 and at Central Christian High School in Grand Rapids from 1965 to 1966, he visited Germany in 1966 and became a resident of Ber-

lin in 1967, remaining there until 1973. While there he assisted in organizing a Billy Graham Crusade that was held in Europe in 1970.

**IN 1973** he began his Catholic theological studies at the University of Wurzburg and after his ordination to the diaconate in 1977 he returned to the Diocese of Lansing and served one year as a deacon at St. Patrick's Parish, Brighton.

Thomas will return to the diocese in September after the completion of his studies at the University of Wurzburg.

A group of 83 people is expected to attend the ordination along with Catholics from all over the diocese.

**MRS. NEITZ** and her niece, Mrs. Thomas Sanford, also of Lansing, will be among those attending the ordination service.