

Prelate to Face Murder Charge

DENVER (AP) — A priest who shot and killed a church burglar Easter night probably will be charged with murder, Deputy Dist. Atty. Melvin Rossman said today.

The charge is only a formality, however.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Delisle A. Lemieux, 59, fatally wounded ex-convict Richard E. Sanders, 27, when Sanders and a companion attempted to escape.

The priest, armed with an automatic and a .12-gauge shotgun, surprised the pair as they stole Easter church collections in the rectory of St. Catherine's Catholic Church Sunday night.

Sanders' companion fled as Msgr. Lemieux fired three shots at him with the automatic.

Police alerted hospitals and physicians on the possibility the man may have been wounded.

Msgr. Lemieux remained in seclusion Monday after giving his account to police.