



REV. PATRICK J. McMYLER

## Fr. McMyler Assumes Assistant Pastor Duties

The Rev. Patrick Joseph McMyler has officially begun his duties as assistant pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

Father McMyler arrived Aug. 7 from Waterford, Ireland and says he "plans to stay as long as the church leaves me here."

Father McMyler had planned to come to the United States since the summer he graduated from Sacred Heart College six years ago. That summer, Msgr. Francis Duignan, pastor at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Jefferson City, was on a recruiting mission to Ireland. Msgr. Duignan talked with Father McMyler, who agreed to come here when he had been ordained.

Father McMyler was ordained last June 14, and he came here after a seven-week vacation.

Born March 5, 1938 in Com-

mauns, near Castlebar, Ireland, Mr. McMyler attended grade school and Sacred Heart College near Castlebar. He was ordained at the Church of the Holy Trinity in Waterford.

Father McMyler said he first decided to become a priest when he was 14. He said the examples of other men in the church, the good they did and the lives they led made him want to be a part of the church.

Since he has been here, Father McMyler has conducted masses, heard confessions, visited families and is becoming an integral part of Our Lady of Lourdes.

When he first saw the United States, at customs in Kennedy Airport, he said he was impressed by the fast pace of the city. Since he has been here, Father McMyler has found the cities, buildings and cars much bigger than those in Ireland.

Father McMyler was hit hardest by the weather here. In Ireland, he said, people complain of the heat if it gets over 65. It was 95 the day he arrived in St. Louis.

Commenting on the long distance transfer, he said it was not unusual because there is a surplus of priests in Ireland, and a shortage in the United States.

Father McMyler is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John McMyler who live in Castlebar, County Mayo. He has three brothers and two sisters. He said his brothers and sisters do not plan to go into the church. He has two cousins who are priests.