

Know Your Minister



Father Wallace Ellinger

Rev. Wallace G. Ellinger was born August 24, 1918 to Mr. and Mrs. Winfield D. Ellinger of Webster Grove, Mo., both now deceased. Father Ellinger has three brothers, Dean Ellinger, Ross Ellinger of St. Louis, Mo., and Don Ellinger of Washington D. C., and one sister, Mrs. Robert Biggs of St. Louis, Mo. He was baptized September 8, 1918 at the Holy Redeemer Church at Webster Grove, Mo.

Rev. Ellinger grew up in Webster Groves, Mo., and attended Lockwood grade school there. He graduated from Webster High School in 1937, and attended the St. Louis University and was employed at Ralston Purina Co., before the war. He entered service and was in the U. S. Air Force for four years. After completing his military service he attended Conception Seminary, Conception, Mo., operated by Benedictine Fathers. He majored in philosophy. In 1953 he attended Kenrick Theological Seminary, at St. Louis operated

by the Vincentian Fathers. He was ordained to the Sacred Priesthood February 28, 1953 in Kenrick Chapel by Joseph Cardinal Ritter, offered First Solemn Mass at St. Francis Xavier College Church in St. Louis, March 1, 1953.

Rev. Ellinger was assigned as assistant pastor to Father Huels at Sacred Heart in Caruthersville, 1953 through 1957. He was Chaplain of St. John's Hospital at Joplin and assistant pastor of St. May's Church at Joplin 1957 through 1959. He was serving as pastor of St. Mary's Seneca, Mo., and Nativity Church, Noel, Mo., 1959 through 1960.

He returned to Caruthersville in 1960 where he has remained until present time. He was also in charge of the Church at Kennett and Steele 1960 through 1961. Additional jobs Diocesan Director for the Extension Lay Volunteer Program. Diocesan Director for Papal Volunteers for Latin America, PAVIA. He is still serving St. Joseph Church at Steele, Mo. He is planning a trip to Mexico in January.