News of religion

Ex-Islander ordained to permanent diaconate

Arthur P. Manzione, 35, a former West Brighton resident, and now principal of Sacred Heart School in Newburgh, N.Y., was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate of the Catholic Church today during services in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

A graduate of PS 16 at 80 Monroe



Arthur P. Manzione

Ave., Tompkinsville, and of St. Peter's Boys High School, Manzione earned his bachelor's degree in social studies in 1969 from St. Francis College in Brooklyn.

In 1978, Manzione was awarded a master's degree in education from Fordham University.

Cardinal Terence Cooke ordained four men to the Permanent Diaconate, and Bishop Austin Vaughan preached.

The Permanent Diaconate was established in New York in 1968, and the first deacons were ordained in 1973.

A permanent deacon is a man from the community who is ordained to a ministry of service. Like a priest, he has a three-fold role: Minister, teacher, servant.

He may administer the sacraments of baptism and marriage and bring the Eucharist to the sick and aged. During the eucharistic prayer, he assists the priest.

In the parish, he helps to care for the needs of special groups. He is also a teacher and holds classes in the parish regarding church doctrine.

The concept of the Permanent Diaconate was a result of the Second Vatican Council in 1967.

Tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. a mass of thanksgiving will be celebrated at Sacred Heart R.C. Church, Newburgh, in celebration of Manzione's ordination. A reception will follow at 2:30 p.m. in the Sacred Heart School.

Manzione is a member of the Association of School Administrators, Phi Delta Kappa, an educational fraternity, the National Catholic Educational Association, and the Association of Secondary School Curriculum and Development.