

E.J. Becwar

The Rev. E.J. Becwar, 73, 615 N. Seventh St., died Sept. 5, 1991, in a Bismarck hospital. Services will be held at noon Monday at Church of the Ascension, Bismarck, with the Bishop John F. Kinney officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Sunday and 8 a.m.-noon Monday at the church, where a vigil will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday.

The Rev. Becwar was born July 18, 1918, at Havre, Mont., the son of



E.J. Becwar
served Bismarck in
many ways.

Earl R. and Margaret (Kinsella) Becwar. His elementary education was at St. Leo's School, Minot. He attended St. John's University and Seminary in Collegeville, Minn. from 1937 to 1941. The Rev. Becwar then attended St. Paul Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., where he completed his theological studies. He went on to Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis., where he received his masters degree in education. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Bismarck, on Dec. 21, 1944, by the Most Reverend Vincent J. Ryan.

The Rev. Becwar's first assignment in the Diocese of Bismarck was as assistant pastor and principal at the Church of St. Leo in Minot from January 1944 to September 1950. In August of 1950, Rev. Becwar served as chaplain and religion instructor at St. Alexius Nursing School in Bismarck. He was also administrator of the Church of St. Ignatius in Wing and taught at St. Mary's High School in Bismarck. In August 1955, Rev. Becwar was appointed principal of St. Mary's High School in Bismarck. In August 1958, he was appointed superintendent of St. Mary's High School, where he served until July 1974. In August of 1958, Rev. Becwar became administrator of the Church of St. Hildegard in Menoken. In July of 1970, he became administrator of the Church of St. Vincent in Crown Butte where he served until 1974. In June of 1973, Rev. Becwar was appointed director of the Office of Religious Education and Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese and served in that position until June of 1984. In July of 1974, Rev. Becwar was appointed pastor of the Church of the Ascension in Bismarck where he served until his retirement in June of 1988. Rev. Becwar was serving as chaplain at Medcenter One in Bismarck at the time of his death.

He is survived by one brother, Roger, Tulsa, Okla.; and two sisters, Mrs. Dan Humphreys, Minot, and Mrs. Jim Miller, Cayucos, Calif. He was preceded in death by his parents; and one brother, the Rev. Donald Becwar.