

Teaneck

CENTRAL BERGEN

Father Quigley Honored By 1,200 On Golden Jubilee In Priesthood

Teaneck — Approximately 1,200 persons turned out Saturday to pay homage to the Rev. Silverius J. Quigley, O. Carm., pastor of St. Anastasia's R. C. Church here, at a day-long celebration in observance of his golden jubilee in the priesthood. Archbishop Thomas J. Boland of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Newark presided over the 10 A. M. solemn high mass of thanksgiving for the pastor's 50 years as a priest, and the climax came Saturday night when the auditorium of the new parochial school was dedicated to Father Quigley.

About 500 were present for the anniversary mass, and approximately 700 parishioners, Township leaders, and friends were present at the evening program. Chris Kelly presented the plaque bearing the dedication inscription to Father Quigley, naming the auditorium of the school Quigley Hall in honor of the pastor who had labored tirelessly since his arrival in Teaneck in 1933 to achieve the present, modern school plant.

The surprise program of entertainment which followed the dedication ceremonies featured a skit written by Jim Bishop, Teaneck author, newspaperman, and member of the parish, which recreated the life history of Father Quigley. Patterned after the television presentation, "This Is Your Life", the skit had the Rev. Leo Martin, chaplain of Holy Name Hospital, as the narrator.

Mrs. Jane Smullen, an ardent worker in St. Cecilia's parish where Father Quigley served as assistant pastor and then as pastor for 24 years prior to being transferred to Teaneck, appeared on the platform during the presentation of the skit. Mrs. Smullen, now more than 90, resides at St. Joseph's Home for the Blind in Jersey City.

The skit related how Father Quigley's zeal for education and

building motivated the construction of the present St. Cecilia's High School and priory in Englewood, and pointed up his deep, abiding faith that with the aid of God all things could be accomplished in due time.

The narrator related that despite the success of his building program in Englewood, Father Quigley's one regret was that he didn't have chimes for the church, so he began to pray for chimes. Soon afterward, on Christmas Eve of 1920 to be exact, the chimes of St. Cecilia's were dedicated—the gift of a parishioner contributed in memory of her husband.

Then the chronicle of the pastor's labors in St. Anastasia's parish was narrated, climaxed when the new \$750,000 school building was opened in September 1951. A modern, large convent, constructed at a cost of \$350,000, and designed to house an enlarged teaching staff, was finished at about the same time the parochial school was completed.

Sister M. Eileen Patricia, present principal of St. Anastasia's School; Sister M. Grace Margaret, and Sister M. Agnes Veronica, who also helped to form the nucleus of the teaching staff for the old, small wooden school erected in 1933, were praised during the presentation. Quigley secured these three nuns of the Sisters of Charity from St. Cecilia's School to serve as the backbone for the new educational endeavor in Teaneck.

PLAY TAPE RECORDINGS

A tape-recorded program done by George Foley, parishioner and program director for C. B. S. television, and Joseph Kelly of C. B. S. then was played for the gathering, starting off with an account of Father Quigley's boyhood days in Pittsburgh, when baseball was his main interest in life.

Edmund Farrell presented the pastor with a check on behalf of the parish. Part of this sum, which will be for the pastor's personal use, will be used for a trip to Rome, where Father Quigley was ordained in 1903. The remainder is to go into a fund, to be known as the Father Quigley Jubilee Fund, to enable deserving young men every year to enter a Carmelite seminary to study for the priesthood.

Mayor Henry Deissler, Township Manager James T. Welsh, Teaneck High School Principal Charles L. Steel Jr., and Township Superin-

tendent of Schools Dr. Lester N. Neulen were among the invited guests attending the Saturday night program.

Mrs. C. Jerry Lomabrdo, mezzo-soprano, was soloist during the entertainment, and Mrs. Alice Traener was pianist.

Following the mass, Father Quigley had a breakfast for members of his family, the church dignitaries attending, and his personal friends. A buffet and dancing to an orchestra followed the evening program. The Rev. Brice Riordan, O. Carm., and the Rev. Justin O'Connell, O. Carm., assistant pastors of the church, headed the committee in charge of the jubilee program.

Parishioners serving on this committee included: Ross Hewitt, finance; James Murphy, general program; Hank Berg and Kelly, plaque; Thomas Cooney, research; John Sullivan, refreshment; Rupert McLaughlin, invitations; C. Jerry Lombardo, publicity; Bishop, biography; and Mrs. Douglas J. Hennessy, buffet.

Acting on the reception committee for the affair were Joseph Kelly, William Hourigan, James Birch, Farrell, Donald De Mar, Frank Bryan, Mrs. Warren Sheehy, Mrs. Clifford H. Peinecke, Mrs. J. E. Lynch, Mrs. Victor del Mastro, Mrs. Leo J. Marshall, and Mrs. L. E. Dupernet, and Mrs. John Flannery.

ARCHBISHOP OFFERS CONGRATULATIONS



Archbishop Thomas J. Boland (left) is shown congratulating the Rev. Silverius J. Quigley, O. Carm., pastor of St. Anastasia's R. C. Church, during day-long celebration in observance of the latter's golden jubilee in priesthood.