

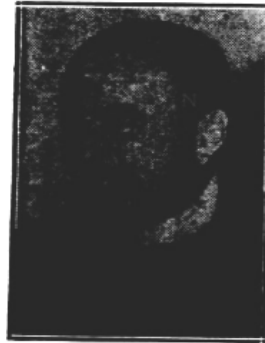


'24-Hr.' Priest Keeps Eye on Youngsters

"The kids know he's in their corner and they like him. But he'll jump on them hard if they deserve it."

That's the way one parishioner of SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Deer Park, described the Rev. William J. McGlynn, assistant pastor, who is a "24-hour-a-day" priest, especially when it comes to taking care of the youth of the parish.

He is in charge of the altar boys, the high school confrater-



Rev. William J. McGlynn

nity program and the extensive CYO sports activities in a parish where 1,000 babies are baptized every year.

"Sports is not an end in itself but a means to an end," said the 6-foot, 210-pound priest who played varsity tackle in his undergraduate days at Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Md.

Must Learn Sacrifice

"Children have many problems today. Parents want to do everything for the youngsters. The kids have not learned the value of sacrifice and in ball playing you have to learn sacrifice."

Father McGlynn, who seems to know every youngster in the vast, sprawling parish by name, is not content to sit quietly in his study when the final whistle has blown or the last out has been made.

He tries to anticipate problems and stop any trouble before it starts. During the evening hours he gets in his car and tours the 47-square mile parish.

When he sees a group of young persons possibly mischief bent, he talks to them and sends them along home if they have no justification for being out at that hour. Sometimes the parents receive a discreet phone call—just in case they didn't "know where their children were that night."

Was an Altar Boy

Father McGlynn was born and raised in Central Islip, where he attended St. John of God parochial school and served as an altar boy. He went to Central Islip HS before entering Mount St. Mary's. He studied for the priesthood at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington, and was ordained in 1946.

Prior to his assignment to St. Cyril's in 1960, he served at St. Anne's Church, Brentwood; the Church of the Nativity in Brooklyn; St. Vincent De Paul, Brooklyn, and Notre Dame in New Hyde Park.

His main hobby is "hacking around" at golf, and he "hacks" fairly well, playing in the low 90s. He still has a soft spot in his heart for the baseball Giants and closely follows the fortunes of the football Giants.

He has two married sisters, Helen, who is Mrs. Howard Linquist of Central Islip, mother of five boys, and Bernadette, who is Mrs. Alec Pelkofski of Commack, who has two boys and two girls.