

Mass to honor the Rev. O'Connell

A special Mass honoring the Rev. John D. O'Connell's 25 years in the priesthood will be offered on Sunday, June 3, at 4 p.m. at St. Michael's Church in Staunton. A public reception will be held in the Knights of Columbus Hall immediately following the Mass.

Father O'Connell was born on July 30, 1933, in Litchfield. He spent his boyhood growing up in Gillespie. His parents are Mrs. Grace O'Connell and the late Dr. Patrick O'Connell. He has two brothers, Richard of Quincy and James of Naperville; and a sister, Mrs. Mary Mizera of Garden Grove, Calif.

Receiving his education at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Ill., Father O'Connell was ordained on May 23, 1959. His appointments since then have included assistant at St.

Patrick's in Springfield, 1959; pastor of Immaculate Conception in Mattoon, 1963; pastor of SS Peter and Paul in Alton, 1967; chaplain at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, 1969; assistant at St. Elizabeth's in Granite City, 1970; administrator at Immaculate Conception in Dieterich, 1971; pastor at St. Mark's in Venice, 1972; on leave to Peru, S. America, in 1976; administrator at St. Michael's in Staunton, 1979; and pastor at St. Michael's in Staunton, 1980.