

Father McPherson Is Appointed Diocesan Youth Director

The appointment of the Rev. Joseph M. McPherson, assistant pastor of St. Bartholomew's Church, as diocesan youth director was made today by the Most Rev. John F. O'Hara, CSC, bishop of the Buffalo Diocese. He succeeds the Very Rev. Leo R. Smith, diocesan chancellor, who is being relieved of some of his duties. Msgr. Smith had been youth director since the Diocesan Youth Bureau was established several years ago by the late Bishop John A. Duffy. He became chancellor nearly three months ago.

Father McPherson, widely-known in youth work, is a native Buffalonian. He has been a priest since June 6, 1936, when he was ordained in St. Joseph's Cathedral by the late Bishop William Turner.

Father McPherson attended Nativity Parochial School and was in the first class to be graduated from the Little Seminary of St. Joseph and the Little Flower in 1930. He spent the next four years at the American College at the University of Louvain, Belgium, and completed his studies for the priesthood during the next two years at St. Bonaventure Seminary.

After his ordination, Father McPherson was named an assistant to the late Rt. Rev. Nelson H. Baker and served at the basilica of Our Lady of Victory for three years. He was transferred to St. Paul's, Kenmore, as assistant to the Most Rev. Joseph A. Burke, V.G., auxiliary bishop, who then was pastor of the Kenmore parish. For the last three years Father McPherson has been assistant to the



REV. JOSEPH M. McPHERSON

Rev. Thomas J. O'Hern, pastor of St. Bartholomew's.

Father McPherson will devote his full time to youth work and activities. He will be succeeded as assistant at St. Bartholomew's by the Rev. Irwin E. Spahn, who has just returned from service as a Navy chaplain.

Father McPherson has been chaplain of the Catholic Committee on Scouting in the Buffalo area for several years. His headquarters as youth director will be at 604 Lafayette Building, 6 Broadway.