

Parishioners to Honor Priest on Anniversary



THE REV. GEORGE ZIMPFER

300 to Attend Testimonial To Father Zimpfer

Civic leaders of Williamsville will join with parishioners of SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in a tribute to the Rev. George Zimpfer, pastor, at a testimonial dinner marking the 25th anniversary of his ordination at 6 p. m. Sunday in the Lamm Legion Post clubhouse, Wehrle Dr., Williamsville.

Supervisor Albert J. Herman of Amherst, general chairman, announced yesterday that attendance has been limited to 300, "although twice as many have indicated their desire to attend.

Native of Buffalo

Born in Buffalo, March 12, 1897, Father Zimpfer attended St. Louis Church as a youth and studied at Canisius High School and College. He prepared for the priesthood at the Seminary of Our Lady of the Angels at Niagara University, being ordained January 6th, 1923, by the late Bishop William Turner.

The jubilarian's first assignment in 1923 was as assistant pastor of SS. Peter and Paul parish in Hamburg, where he remained until 1926. Transferred to the parish he now heads, he served there as assistant pastor until February, 1941, when he was elevated to the pastorate of Sacred Heart Church in Bowmansville. He returned to Williamsville, July 1, 1945, as pastor.

From 1923 to 1943, Father Zimpfer served as an instructor at SS. Peter and Paul Parochial School in Hamburg, the Neumann High School in Williamsville and the Little Seminary in Buffalo.

Priest Reorganized Sodality

He reorganized the Buffalo Parish Sodality Union in 1936, serving as its moderator for ten years. In 1946, Bishop John F. O'Hara named him diocesan director of sodalities.

He is the author of a book, *Fear Not Little Flock*, which examines spiritual problems of the religious. It has had six printings since its first publication in 1941. He also compiled and wrote an interesting history of his 112-year-old parish. The late Bishop Duffy in 1944 appointed him to the diocesan historical commission, organized to chronicle the history of all parishes in the diocese.