Metairie Priest Ordained At St. Louis Cathedral

Paul J. Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Richard of 413 Aurora avenue, was ordained at St. Louis cathedral by the Most Rev. Joseph Francis Rummel at a solemn ceremony on May 22, 1948.

Father Richard, the first priest



REV. PAUL J. RICHARD

from St. Catherine of Sienna parish, was born in New Orleans on January 31, 1922. He received his elementary training at St. Catherine and his secondary education at Metairie High school, graduating from that school in 1939.

He attended St. Joseph's seminary at St. Benedict 1940-42 and entered Notre Dame seminary in 1943.

Father Richard said his first solemn High Mass at St. Catherine church on Sunday, May 23 at 11o'clock. The ceremonies began at the rectory with a procession to the Church, led by the altar boys, the choir boys and little flower girls—all from St. Catherine Parochial school. Dressed as bride and groom and carrying the chalice and paten respectively, were his niece, Miss Judy Bonnabel and a neighbor.

Father Richard was assisted at his first mass by the pastor, the Rev. Paul A. Melancon as archpriest; Rev. Augustine Blouin as deacon; Rev. Leon A. Cau as subdeacon; Rev. Joseph B. Pooley as master of ceremonies. Rev. Vincent J. O'Donnell, professor at Notre Dame seminary, delivered the sermon on the occasion.

The church was crowded with friends and former parishioners who were anxious to participate with him in this very happy and unforgettable occasion. In the afternoon Father Richard gave the Benediction at the ceremonies of the crowning of the May queen, which was held on the school grounds.

A reception was tendered the

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new priest by the ladies of the parish and refreshments were furnished all in attendance. Father Richard was presented with a large cake in the form of an open missal and a purse was presented as a token of esteem from the members of the parish.

Father Richard has five sisters: Dorothy (Mrs. Bonnabel); Rose Lily, Inez, Vera, Cora Mae; and one brother, Henry Richard.

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