

Father V.J. Morgan celebrates 50 years in the priesthood

On Saturday June 10, 1972, Father Vincent J. Morgan will be ordained a priest 50 years, and of that time he has served more than 30 years as pastor of St. Joseph's parish, Acton, which also includes 15 years as pastor of the Georgetown mission. He retired in August, 1971.

Father Morgan is a native of Collingwood, Ont., son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Francis Morgan of Dublin, Ireland. He attended public schools and St. Mary's Separate School where he passed his Entrance. While attending Collingwood Collegiate Institute his family moved to Hamilton, where he attended the Hamilton Collegiate. He then took his College and Philosophical Course at St. Jerome's College, Kitchener, graduating in 1918. The following four years of his theological studies were taken at St. Augustine's Seminary, Toronto.

Saturday, June 10, 1922, he was ordained in St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Hamilton, by Bishop O'Brien of Peterborough.

Macton first
During Father Morgan's first assignment was curate to Macton with the Missions of Linwood and Elmira, which continued for a year and a half. With the new appointment of the Pastor Father Weidner, Father Morgan was appointed pastor of Macton and Elmira, while Linwood was cared for by St. Clements Parish, St. Clements, Ont., and its pastor Father Becker was assisted by his uncle, Msgr. Forester, semi-retired.

This arrangement continued for several months until the death of Msgr. Forester, and then Elmira reverted to the care of St. Jerome's College, Kitchener. Linwood became again a Mission of Macton with Father Morgan as Pastor until May 1941.

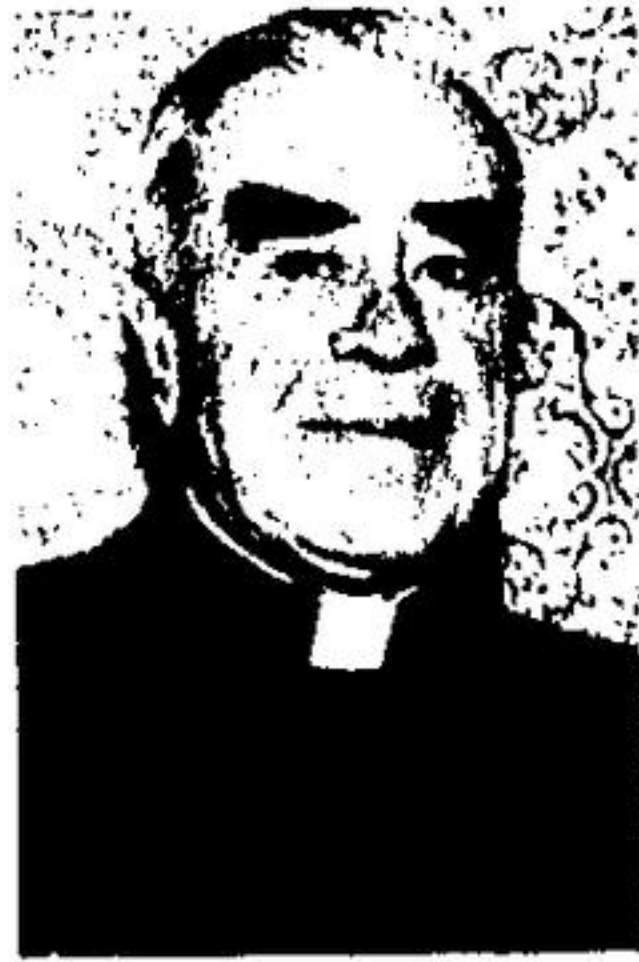
spoken to by friends about the transfer, jokingly he would say "I knocked the M out of Macton and made it Acton."

While Holy Cross Parish, Georgetown, was under his care from May 1941 to May, 1956, Father Morgan was instrumental in making many improvements, among which was the procuring of the property adjoining the church and the present brick residence on the corner of Guelph and John Streets, now serving as a rectory for the French parish.

During the more than 39 years as Pastor of Acton, Father Morgan took a keen interest in the growth and progress of the parish and the Town of Acton. He was a member of the Acton Clergy Association and endeared himself to citizens of Acton, regardless of denomination.

Since he was of an athletic nature in his college and seminary days, played hockey on St. Jerome's College team and baseball on the Hamilton diocese seminary team, he was a promoter of good clean sports for the youth of the town.

When Acton and Georgetown were in the OHA Senior Grouping, seldom did he miss a game at Acton or Georgetown. Just to tease the Acton altar boys



FATHER V. J. MORGAN Celebrates jubilee

he would root for Georgetown when they would play at Acton, and would be at Georgetown when Acton would be playing there, and cheering for Acton. On Sundays, after Mass, he would again have fun teasing the Georgetown altar boys and claiming Acton had a better team.

Cemetery kept up

Father Morgan kept a fond remembrance of the deceased of the parish, and took a keen interest in the care of St. Joseph's Cemetery. Under his direction and leadership, Ezio Marzo and generous helpers, the cemetery grounds were kept beautiful. He marked the graves with white wooden crosses, those that were interred, graves that were paid for and reserved and those that were vacant and for sale. He erected a mausoleum where the remains could be kept during the winter and interred in the spring, and a driveway into the cemetery for the hearse. He also procured the property adjoining St. Joseph's cemetery for future use.

The parish rectory was kept in good repair with many improvements made, including a new recreation room and retaining wall, a summer kitchen was added, heating system changed from coal to oil, a small furnace added to heat back rooms, aluminum storms and screens and the office panelled.

The church was the principal love of Father Morgan and the comfort of parishioners. The old drive shed, no longer used for horses, was torn down, and the grounds kept as lawns, with

automatic outside floodlights installed, the best policeman against vandalism.

The heating system of the church was converted from coal to fuel oil and enclosed, and a two thousand gallon tank submerged on the east side of the church. The church basement hall was decorated, sewerage and water installed, a marble tile floor with eight engravings to recall the eight beatitudes.

The body of the church and the sanctuary also received many improvements and additions, a few of which were redecorated several times, new pews added to the church proper and the gallery. Two holy water fonts matching the new pews were donated by parishioners. The gallery was enlarged to increase seating accommodation from 13 to 65 or 90. Mastic tile flooring in the aisles and marble tile under the pews was installed. Stained glass windows were winterized to aid in heating the church. Double confessionals, new stations of the cross, automatic ringing of the tower bell for the daily Angelus, tolling for funerals, and other purposes were installed. Loud speaker and amplifiers were also

installed along with other improvements.

New methods

The Liturgical changes directed and approved by the second Vatican Council were explained and gradually adopted, such as the daily reading lessons at Mass, the offering of the gifts at Mass and standing for the reception of Holy Communion instead of kneeling. A sacrificial altar was added to the sanctuary, at which the priest faced the people in celebrating Mass according to the new liturgy.

Father Morgan always maintained that the spiritual life of priest, parishioner and mankind should come first and was more important than all man's material progress and accomplishments, for the spiritual life gave more merit and reward for eternity. These were the lessons he tried to bring home in his sermons and example.

The teachings of Scripture as he learned it from the old Butler Catechism when a boy were often emphasized "To Love and Serve God with your whole heart, your whole soul, all your strength and all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself, and your neighbor was mankind of every

description and without any exception of persons, even those who injure us and differ from us in religion."

He also preached on great devotion (not adoration) especially on her many feasts of the Mother of God, and in particular the recitation of the Holy Rosary. He had parishioners take turns each month in the parish recitation of Our Lady's Rosary on Monday nights in the church. He had the Family Digest mailed to Catholic homes free of charge, (furnished by the merchants' ads.) The sick and shut-ins were brought Holy Communion every First Friday of each month and at Easter and Christmas, and the First Friday Mass was offered for members of the Altar Society.

Taught at school

Since the Catholic children did not have the opportunity of religious instructions in the public schools, Father Morgan went each week to both schools and taught catechism and provided lay teachers to help in the instructions. The principals of both schools were very cooperative in this regard. Father Morgan also had religious instructions for the children on Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons and special instructions each day for several weeks before First Communion and Confirmation.

When Father Morgan was asked if the 30 years he served Acton were to his liking, he answered, "They were most happy". When asked why he remained in Acton after he retired, his ready answer was, "Because I like Acton very, very much and love all the people of Acton."

On Saturday, June 10, Father Morgan will celebrate his Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving privately in his own chapel, and on Sunday, June 11, Father Morgan will offer Mass privately for all his former parishioners, living and dead.

In the afternoon a reception will be held in his honor at the Acton Music Centre from 2 to 4.30 p.m.

40th anniversary of ordination for Rev. Walter Fosbury

An ordained minister exactly 40 years and a preacher for 50, the Rev. Walter Fosbury arrived at Churchill community church Sunday morning to find strange cars in the parking lot. His suspicions grew as he saw some of his family and were confirmed as he spotted friends of many years from five different congregations.

"I don't know how you expect anybody could preach a sermon after a surprise like that!" Mr. Fosbury exclaimed as he began the regular morning service in the church on the hill. But the event had been kept a close secret. Mrs. Fosbury had been hiding mail for days. And fellow members of the clergy association hadn't asked him to

participate in the decoration day program.

Shall we stay?
With a pot luck lunch expected after church, Mrs. Fosbury had even remarked to her husband that morning, "Well, shall we stay for the lunch, Fos, or come home?"

These stratagems were recalled with delight after the

surprise had been revealed.

A happy fellowship of all their family—three daughters and a son, their husbands and wife, and five grandchildren—other relatives and so many friends seemed a perfect way to mark 40 decades in the ministry.

Fresh June breezes blew in the open windows of the lovely old white frame church on the hill, decorated with garden bouquets of spring flowers and lilacs. Churchill Community church is observing the 134th anniversary of its founding next Sunday—still in the original building.

Church filled

The church was filled for the service and the voices of faithful church people singing familiar hymns swelled to meet the melodious volume of the church orchestra, Archie Kerr, his daughter Marie Anderson, Les Swackhamer and John Duenk. The choir sang delightfully a modern anthem, Jack Denny sang a solo during the service, and at its conclusion one of the visitors, Dennis Sollowall of Toronto, walked to the front to sing another moving solo.

Same text

Mr. Fosbury had repeated the text of his first sermon after ordination on "love" and it proved most apt for the occasion.

The pace was leisurely and pleasant as 125 gathered downstairs for a pot luck lunch, the only moment's rush coming when some of the men saw they had to put up another long table

to accommodate the crowd.

Decorated cakes

There were two anniversary cakes made by Mrs. Clifford Storey, one of them in the shape of an open Bible.

It was Mrs. Storey, too, who read the touching citation, as a commemorative plaque was presented by Archie Kerr, Young Helen Kockx had a bouquet of roses for Betty Fosbury.

All their family was present, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Caruso (Betty Mae) of Brampton with Jeff, Carolyn and Barbie Jo; Dr. and Mrs. Colin Bayliss (Sheila) of Toronto and Melinda; Mr. and Mrs. Orval Cross (Kay) Lorne Park and son Craig, and son Don Fosbury and his wife Sandy of Brampton.

Also there were Mrs. Fosbury's sister Mrs. Mae Cattell, Hastings-on-the-Hudson, N.Y., who is still here visiting; her brother Ivan Chalmers of Toronto (who sang many duets in Acton United church with his sister) and Mr. Fosbury's sister, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Wood, Stratford, with their daughter and granddaughter Mrs. Wraith and Kim.

Former congregations

Among those introducing themselves: a fellow Queen's graduate Rev. Al Dempsey, Barrie Hill; Acton United former clerk of session Orwell Johnson, Glen and Margaret Ferguson, Toronto; Norman and Margaret Moyles, Toronto; doctors Bill and

Margaret Arkinstall, Queensville; Fred and Margaret Reilly, Moorefield; and Frank Johnson, Queensville. Murray Coles read an original poem.

Mr. Fosbury spoke recalling the years past and many happy associations.

Mr. Fosbury was born in the old country in Alton, Hampshire, England, coming to Canada in 1913. He has had a wide variety of jobs—farm, ship, factory and roads. He went back to school at Albert College and then on to Queen's University in 1927 on a classics scholarship. After five years of combined arts and theology, he received his B.A. and B.D. degrees and was ordained in Trinity United Church, Kitchener, June 5, 1932.

But he'd been preaching long before that—as a lay preacher and then a student; in Alberta two summers; on a 130-mile mission at Hearst and in 1930-31 at a four point charge out of Arden, Ontario.

His first charge was at Dobington near Chesley. His

Complete course

Arena manager Harold Townsley and Don Price have successfully completed an Ontario Arenas Association-sponsored course on refrigeration. Harold and Don passed exams following the week long course held at the University of Guelph.



ALL THEIR FAMILY was presented when the Rev. Walter Fosbury observed the 40th anniversary of his ordination June 5, 1932, last Sunday. On the front steps of the picturesque old church at Churchill are: left to right, Jeff, Barbie Jo and Carolyn Caruso with their mother Betty Mae; Don Fosbury, Rev. Walter Fosbury, Kay Cross, Mrs. Fosbury, and Sheila Bayliss holding daughter Melinda. Young Craig Cross evaded the lens. The Fosburys lived in Acton from 1941 to 1947 and returned here three years ago. (Photo by K. Dills)

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at *Wilton Motor Sales* this week

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| 1971 IMPERIAL Le Baron, loaded, Lic. N8661 | 6275 |
| 1965 PONTIAC 2 door sedan, 6 cyl. auto. as is, Lic. 763596 | 275 |
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| 1969 GMC Sierra Grande 1/2 Ton Pick-up, loaded. Lic. 39340V | 2250 |
| 1969 VIVA 4 dr. Sedan, 4 cyl. std. transmission. Lic. N7171 | 995 |
| 1970 Ford Custom 500, 2 dr. hardtop, loaded. Lic. N13616 | 2655 |
| 1969 GMC I T, 5 speed transmission, V-8. Lic. 39257V | 2175 |
| 1968 CHEVROLET Station Wagon, as is. Lic. 96282X | 1375 |
| 1970 PONTIAC Le Mans, V-8, automatic, 18,000 miles. Lic. N9761 | 2695 |
| 1968 BEAUMONT SS, 2 door hardtop. Lic. N5860 | 1995 |
| 1966 CHEVROLET Impala 2 door hardtop, Lic. N13076 | 1175 |
| 1960 BUICK 2 door hardtop. As is. Lic. N8736 | 27.50 |
| 1964 STUDEBAKER. As is. Lic. 910729 | 125 |
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| 1969 CORVETTE Convertible. Lic. L94298 | 4995 |
| 1965 VOLKSWAGEN Station Wagon. Lic. X38923 | 855 |
| 1969 FORD Custom 2 door hardtop. Lic. N75917 | 1975 |
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TOWN OF ACTON NOTICE

The Municipal Council of the Town of Acton will, after the expiration of one month from the date of this notice, take into consideration and pass a By-law to stop up and close that portion of Elizabeth Drive in the Town of Acton more particularly described as follows:

All and Singular that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Town of Acton in the County of Halton and Province of Ontario and being composed of part of Elizabeth Drive in the said Town of Acton as shown on Registered Plan Number 603 on file in the Registry Office for the said County of Halton, containing by admeasurement 0.085 acres be the same more or less and which said parcel of land is more particularly described as follows:

PREMISING that Blackham Street in the said Town of Acton has a bearing of North 43 degrees — 58'-40" West and relating all bearings herein thereto;

COMMENCING at the point of intersection of the northeast limit of Blackham Street with the northwest limit of Elizabeth Drive in the said Town of Acton, said point of intersection being also the southwest angle of Lot 191 as shown on Registered Plan Number 1098 on file in the Registry Office for the said County;

THENCE North 51 degrees — 03'-00" East, along the said northwest limit of Elizabeth Drive being also the southeast limit of said Lot 191, 411.36 feet more or less to an angle therein;

THENCE North 15 degrees — 51'-00" East, along the said northwest limit of Elizabeth Drive being also the said southeast limit of said Lot 191, 115.75 feet to a point therein;

THENCE Southerly, along a curve to the left having a radius of 66 feet an arc distance of 31.10 feet for a chord equivalent of 30.81 feet on a chord bearing of South 2 degrees — 21'-00" West to a point of reverse curvature;

THENCE Southerly, along a curve to the right having a radius of 81.58 feet an arc distance of 42.94 feet for a chord equivalent of 42.45 feet on a chord bearing of South 3 degrees — 55'-45" West to a point of tangency;

THENCE South 19 degrees — 00'-30" West, along a tangent to the aforesaid curve, 45.57 feet to a point;

THENCE South 52 degrees — 40'-30" West, 418.47 feet more or less to the point of commencement.

And to convey same to the owner of the lot immediately adjoining same.

This notice is given pursuant to Section 446 of The Municipal Act, R.S.O., 1970, Chapter 284. Dated at Acton, Ontario, this Sixteenth day of May, 1972.

J. T. Hurst,
Clerk Administrator.

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