

# Father Vincent Egan to mark 45th anniversary of his ordination during special mass Sunday

by Doug Reed

Father W. Vincent Egan, pastor of Port McNicoll's Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, will long remember this coming Sunday (Father's Day), June 15.

That's the day he'll mark his 45th anniversary of being ordained into the Catholic

Church as a priest.

Born and raised in Toronto, the son of a carpenter, Fr. Egan was ordained at St. Augustine Seminary on June 15, 1935 by the late Cardinal McGuigan.

A special celebrated mass this Sunday will be highlighted by the homily to be given by

the Most Rev. R. Robert Clune, auxiliary bishop.

Plan's for Sunday's celebrations have been in the works for weeks.

The ladies of the church have set up a number of displays in the church hall and will be serving a noon luncheon following the mass.

"I came to Port

McNicoll for a summer back in 1974 and I've been here ever since. It sure has been a long summer," Fr. Egan told this newspaper yesterday.

June 1974 turned out to be a disastrous month.

The former United Church in Port McNicoll the parish had bought and was using their original frame church was gutted by fire in 1968 was also almost consumed by fire.

It took more than \$100,000 to restore the church in 1978. While work was taking place

there, Bonar Presbyterian Church opened its doors and its heart allowing Catholics to worship there on Sundays, thanks to Rev. Al Farthing and his flock.

"We had to start from scratch. It took alot of wonderful people pulling together and I'd like to thank each and everyone of them," the priest confided yesterday.

"Other priests and parishes also donated more than \$40,000 to help us get back on our feet."

Both Fr. Egan's

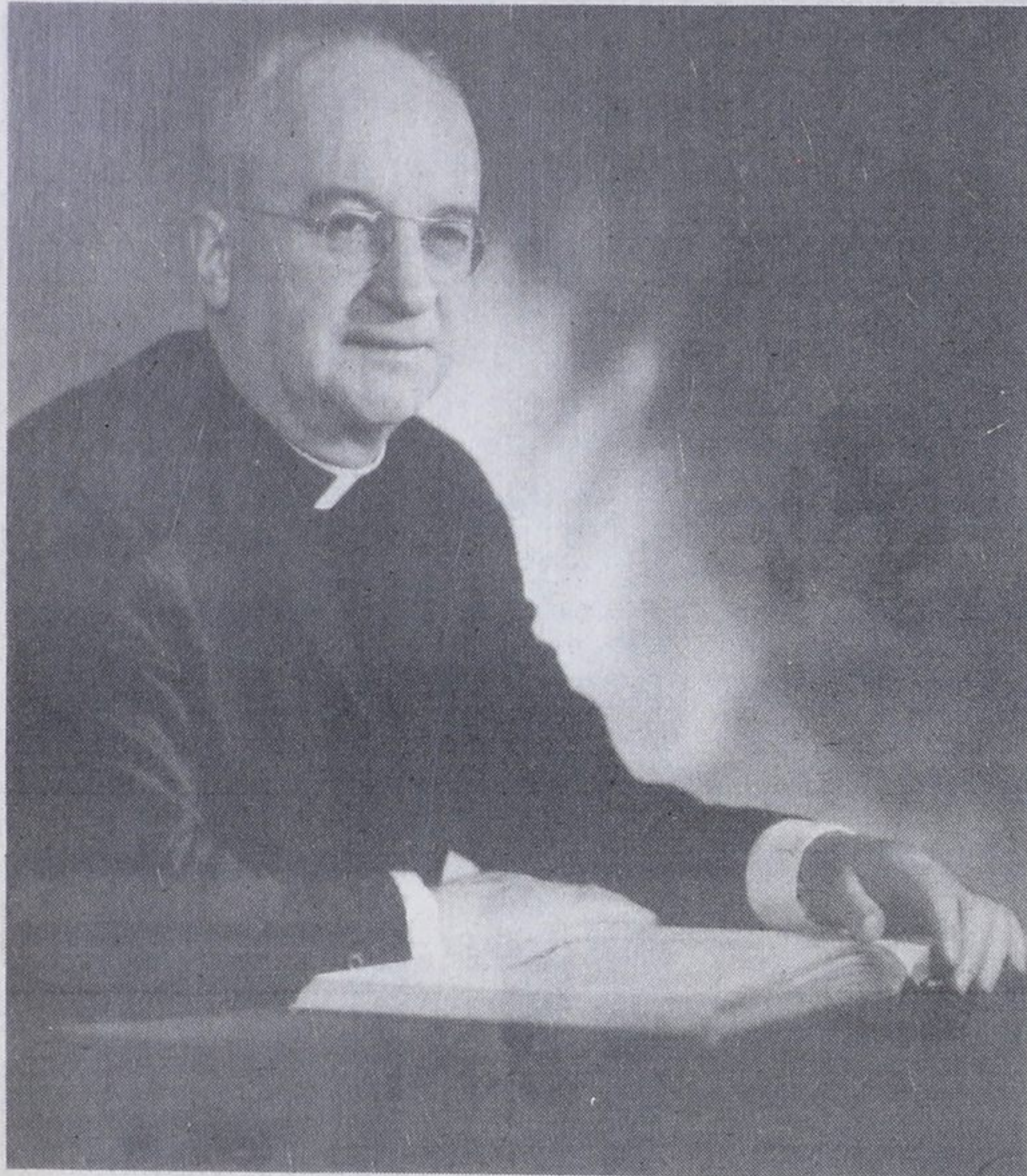
parents are dead now, his father died two years ago at 105, however most of his brothers, sisters, relatives and friends will be in Port McNicoll on Sunday to pay tribute to the pastor who served at a number of Toronto and area church and for a time at Victoria Harbour before coming to Port McNicoll in 1974.

"There are just so many people I would like to thank. They have been good friends and good advisors. A priest can't do it all alone and I've been lucky to have so many of both - friends

and advisors."

He said he'll long remember the church fire of 1974 "and how everyone pulled together. Some of them didn't belong to our church and weren't of our faith but they really pitched in when it counted and I have a special place for them in my heart and in my prayers."

As for Sunday's noon mass, from all reports, the church will be filled to capacity to help celebrate Fr. Egan's 45th anniversary as a parish priest and rightly so.



Father Vincent Egan

## Spelling bee highlights reviewed during May meet

by Grace McMullen

June IODE Kichikewana Chapter meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Karl L. Bertrand, 352 Fifth St., Midland.

Dessert and coffee were served in the dining-room, followed by a social hour.

Regent Mrs. James Tully opened the meeting with the prayer of the order.

The Regent then thanked those who had assisted with the annual May Elementary School Spelling Bee of Area III schools reviewed the plans for the Annual Midland Elementary Schools history awards to be presented at their graduation exercises in memory of the late Miss Ethel Wagg, a long-time and much respected elementary school principal.

The Regent also reminded members of our October 4 annual fall Attic Treasures,, nearly-new and Rummage sale.

A discussion followed centered about some new features and ideas for that sale.

In the absence of secretary Miss Margaret Johnshon the minutes of the last meeting were presented by treasurer Mrs. R. J. Cardwell, who later gave the treasurer's report.

Mrs. D. Henley, secretary of services at Home and Abroad reported IODE

assistance to a needy family. A complete layette and knitted articles had been shipped to Headquarters.

The twelve cotton nursery bags had been readied by Mrs. A. Gilbert past-regent and filled by contributions made by IODE members for shipment to meet needs of hospitalized children abroad.

At the last IODE meeting before summer break it is customary to make contributions to national and provincial services.

Consequently, the Lucy Morrison fund contribution was doubled to assist with a new undertaking - that is to help the sightless by volunteers who transfer from print to brail texts for blind students. This fund will be used to purchase Brail machines. For Genetics a hundred dollars was voted. There was a contribution for Commonwealth Relations Fund.

The Labrador Fund, Support means a donation to Remote Labrador Centres

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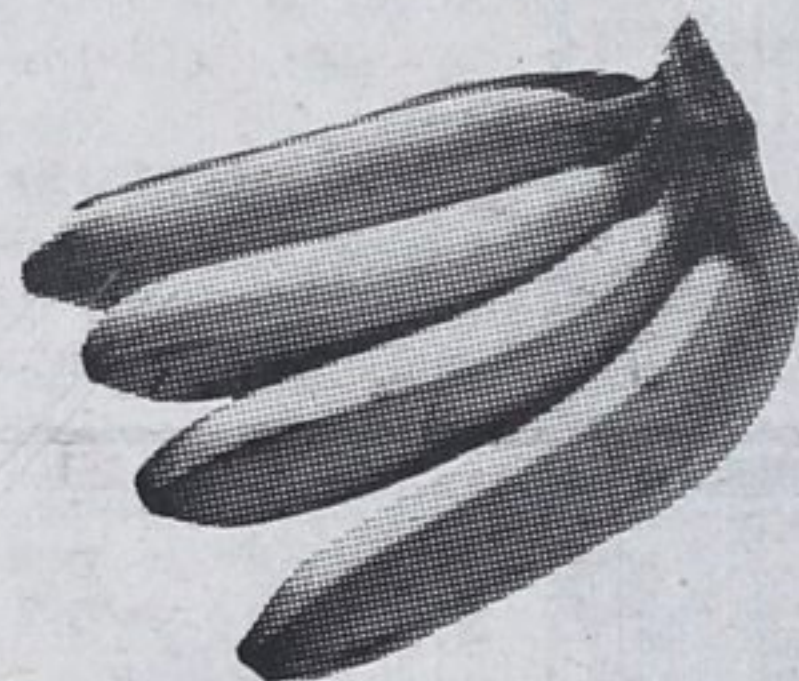
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