





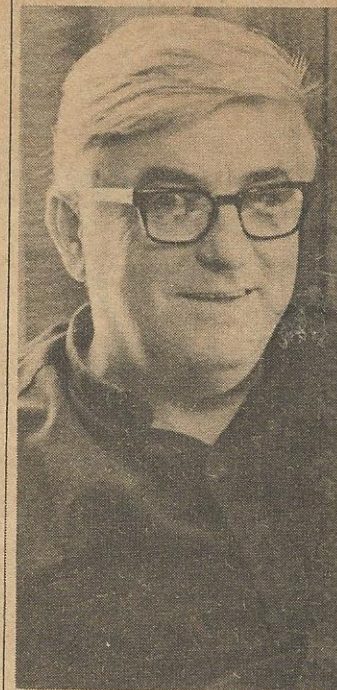
Dummingier To Leave

Father Urban G. Dummingier, who has been the parish priest at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Farmville, will be leaving the community on May 29, to return to St. Charles Seminary, in Carthagenia, Ohio. Father Dummingier has been at the church for the past 10 years.

While in Farmville, he was active in various organizations, including the Prince Edward Rescue Squad, the Fire Department and Flotilla 37 of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. As pastor of the church, he saw the congregation double in size. In addition to his duties at St. Theresa's, Father Dummingier served as priest to the congregation in Meherrin.

"The past 10 years have been the best years of my life", recalled Father Dummingier. "I was nervous when I arrived here, but as I look back, I have enjoyed every minute while I have been in Farmville."

"Everyone has been good to me", he said. "I just don't know what I will be thinking when I take Rt. 460 west for the last



FATHER U. G. DUMMINGIER

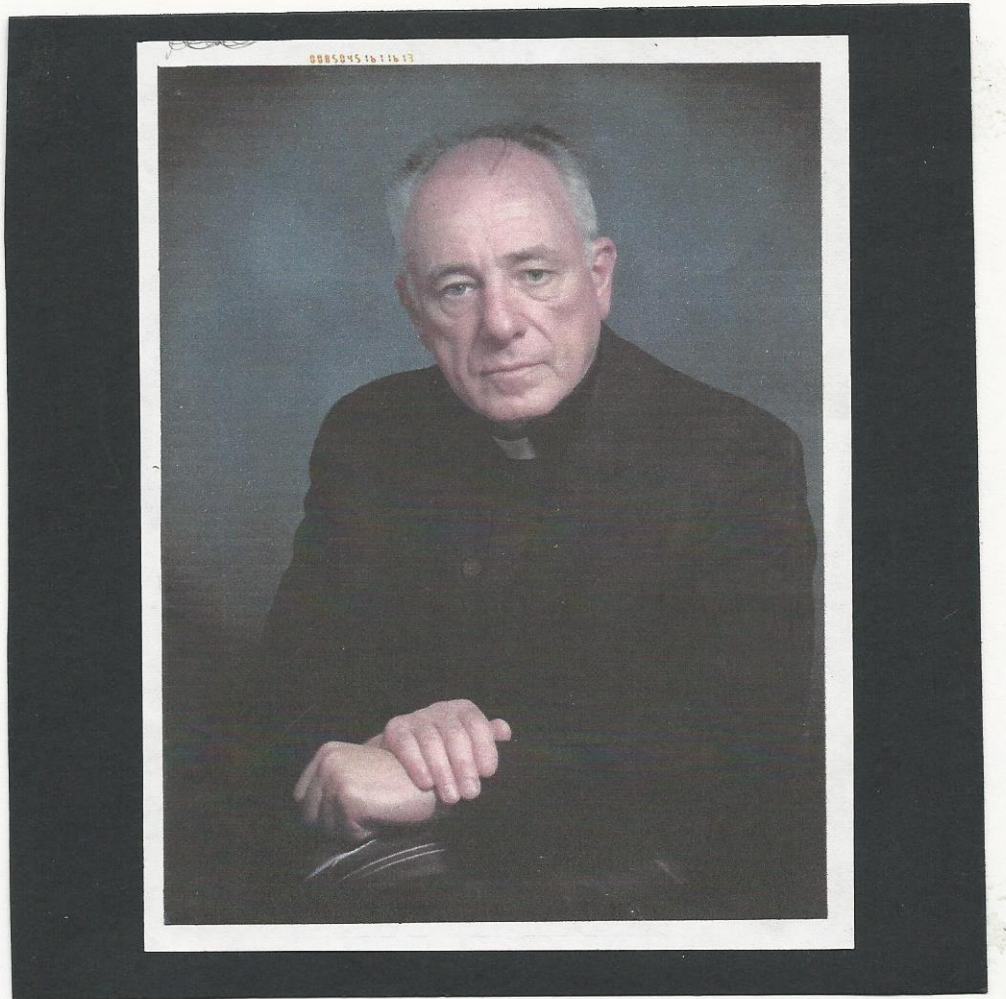
time."

Father Thomas Summers, of Powhatan, will become the new pastor of the church.

FATHER ROBERT J. MCELENEY

1979 – 1987 1999 - 2000

Father Robert McEleney entered St. Mary's Seminary and University, Baltimore, Md. He was ordained into the priesthood in 1958. Following ordination he was assigned as assistant pastor of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth and coordinator at Portsmouth Catholic High School. From 1961 to 1968 Father McEleney was assistant chancellor, Diocese of Richmond and treasurer of St. John Vianney Seminary, Richmond. He next served as pastor of St. Rose of Lima and Star of the Sea parishes in Hampton, and in 1971 founded the Immaculate Conception parish in Hampton where he remained until coming to Farmville in 1979. Father McEleney, one of the first diocesan priests to serve at St. Theresa, had the distinction of serving as pastor twice, from June 1979 to June 1987 and again from November 1999 to June 2000. The plans for the current parish center were begun under Father McEleney. At present, Father McEleney continues to assist at various parishes as needed.





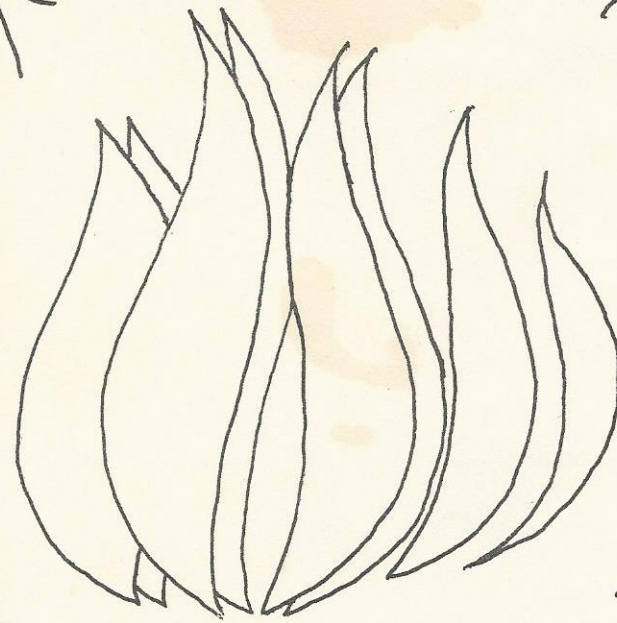
Bishop Confirms Class

Pictured here with the Most Reverend Walter F. Sullivan, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, and the assisting priests, the Reverend James Griffin and the Reverend Robert J. McEleney, are members of the class who were confirmed by Bishop Sullivan, in Saint Theresa Church, on May 24. (Front row, from left) Monica Addleman, Melissa Piccola, Sarah Gager, Jean Wilhelm, Kim Schinabeck, Christine Ward and Kathleen Skelly. (Second row) Alan McCombs, Robert Schroeder, John Wilhelm, Lewis Shook, Gregory Graham, Adam Algiers, Michael Ward, Bishop Sullivan, Father McEleney and Father Griffin.



CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Receive the Holy Spirit



As the Father has sent me, so I send you.

May 24, 1983

St Theresa Church

Farmville, Virginia





RENEW Program Under Way

In honor of the RENEW Program being observed at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Farmville, a tree planting ceremony took place on Sunday, Nov. 17. The tree symbolizes a renewal of life, as the RENEW Pro-

gram renews faith. Pictured are Dr. Mary Heintz, RENEW coordinator and Father Robert J. McEleney, pastor, plus children of the parish.



Catholic Pastor To Celebrate 25th Anniversary

Rev. Robert J. McEleney, pastor of St. Theresa's Catholic Church, Farmville, and Sacred Heart Church, Meherrin, will observe his 25th anniversary as a priest on Sunday, May 1. The celebration will begin at 4 p.m. with a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Theresa's, followed by a reception at Longwood College and later a private dinner hosted by members of the two parishes.

Father McEleney, son of the late Mary Ann and Thomas McEleney, was born in New York City and attended elementary and high schools in New York and Glasgow, Scotland. Following high school, he served two years in the Royal Navy.

After college at Campion House, London, England, he entered St. Mary's Seminary and University, Baltimore, where he obtained a bachelor of arts degree and



REV. R. J. McELENNEY

was ordained into the priesthood in 1958. Following ordination he was assigned as assistant pastor of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, and coordinator at Portsmouth Catholic High School.

From 1961 to 1968, McEleney was assistant chancellor, Diocese of Richmond, and treasurer of St. John Vianney Seminary, Richmond. During this time he also earned a master of education degree from the University of Virginia. He next served as pastor of St. Rose of Lima and St. Mary Star of the Sea Parishes in Hampton and in 1971 founded

the Immaculate Conception Parish in Hampton where he remained until coming to Farmville in 1979.

Very active in Campus Ministry at Longwood and Hampden-Sydney Colleges, he is a member of the Farmville Rotary Club and the Farmville Ministerial Association. In addition he is a candidate for a master of arts degree at Longwood and a Doctor of Ministry at St. Mary's Seminary and University. In spare moments Father McEleney enjoys jogging and racquet ball.

Members of Father

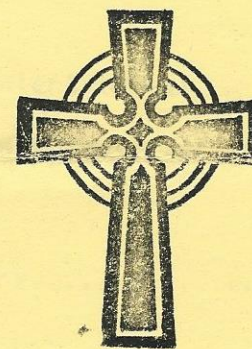
McEleney's family who will attend the celebration are his aunt, Mrs. Agnes Gillispie, of New York; his sister and brother-in-law,

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harold, of Falls Church; and his niece and nephew, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Holland, of Warrenton.

25TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

Rev. Robert J. McEleney

May 1, 1983



Reception and Dinner

**Lower Dining Hall
Longwood College**

McEleney Leaves For Hospital Work

Bishop Walter F. Sullivan, of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, has transferred Father Robert McEleney to a course of study at the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals, in preparation for an assignment as Hospital Chaplain. This course begins May 26, 1987. Father McEleney will be leaving his position as pastor of St. Theresa Catholic Church on Sunday, May 24.

Reverend McEleney came to Farmville from the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Hampton, VA, on May 29, 1979. He was graduated from St. Mary's Seminary and University, Baltimore, MD in May, 1958, with a Licentiate in Theology, cum laude. He served the Catholic Diocese of Richmond as coordinator of Portsmouth Catholic High School,

Assistant Chancellor and Secretary to Bishop Russell, and was on the faculty of St. John Vianney



FATHER McEENEY

Seminary before beginning pastoral work in Hampton as pastor of St. Rose of Lima Church.

After ordination, Father McEleney's graduate education continued at the University of Virginia, where he was awarded an M.Ed. in Speech Education. In 1984, Father received a Master of Arts degree in English from Longwood College, Farmville. On May 9, 1987 he was awarded a Doctor of Ministry degree from St. Mary's Seminary and University, Baltimore. The title of his dissertation was "Toward a Theology of Ministry and Service to the Aging."

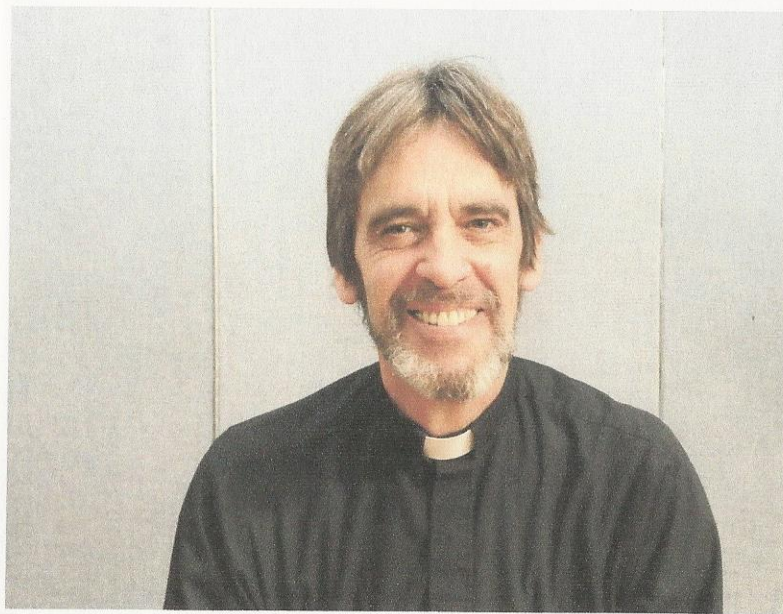
Fathers Robert Krenick and Robert Spencer will be assigned to the parishes of St. Theresa in Farmville, Our Lady of Peace in Appomattox, and the Church of the Nativity in Buckingham, effective June 1, 1987. Area Catholics are asked to extend a cordial welcome to Father McEleney's successors, as well as assist them and each other during this transition.



FATHER ROBERT M. SPENCER

1988 - 1995

Father Bob Spencer was born November 4, 1953 in Washington, DC. Fr. Bob attended St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Md, and was ordained on May 8, 1982 by the Most Reverend Walter Sullivan, Bishop of the Diocese of Richmond. Father Bob served as pastor at St. Theresa, Farmville from 1988 to 1995. The parish center on Buffalo Street was completed under the direction of Fr. Bob Spencer. He was transferred to St. Joseph, Petersburg and is currently pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes, Richmond.





Adding On

Breaking ground for St. Theresa's Catholic Community Education Building (from left to right) are: A.B. Jones, contractor, South Boston; Tim Cottrell, of Butler Buildings; Will Pellegrino, Building committee; Rev. Robert Krenik, pastor; Q.E. Wilhelmi, Finance committee; Cecelia Charlton, Hospitality committee; Rev. Robert Spencer, pastor and Dorothy Obler, former CCD director and parish council member.