

NEW ST. THOMAS CHURCH DEDICATION SEPTEMBER 16

Newly-constructed St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Delmar will be formally dedicated by the Most Rev. William A. Scully, D.D., Bishop of the Albany Diocese, Sunday, Sept. 16 at 11:30 A.M.

More than 100 priests, 40 nuns, various Knights of Columbus groups and 800-900 persons are expected to attend the dedication of the one-half million dollar church which went under construction in July of 1961.

Following the dedication, Bishop Scully will say mass. The Most Rev. Edward J. Maginn, Coadjutor Bishop of the Albany diocese, will preach the sermon.

The church is one of three new structures raised during the pastorate of Rt. Rev. Msgr. Raymond F. Rooney at St. Thomas. In January of 1957 a \$400,000 school was opened and in October of 1958 a \$175,000 rectory was finished.

Father Rooney, who was appointed pastor at St. Thomas in 1955, was ordained in 1936 and has been Albany diocesan chancellor since 1936.

Gothic Arch

The church, Gothic in style, has a capacity of over 900. Its exterior is brick with limestone trim. The facade features a Gothic arch crowned by a rose window and complex of ten stained glass windows. Eight large oak doors provide entrance and exit.

On the church's interior, finished oak is used to cover the steel arches and purlins, the narthex screen and along the walls of church and sanctuary. The floors are of marble. Fourteen lighting fixtures illuminate the nave.

The main altar, which is to arrive this week, is made of Italian marble. On the gospel



NEW BETHLEHEM POLICE CHIEF Peter Fish, left, receives congratulations from newly-promoted Captain Robert Foster, right, while Supervisor Bertram Kohinke looks on.

side of the sanctuary, a chapel to the Blessed Mother has been erected. There is also a baptism and shrines to St. Anthony of Padua and St. Therese, the Little Flower.

Eight lower nave stained glass windows have been taken from the old church according to Monsignor Rooney, who said that "many things in the old Church have been incorporated into the new one."

A number of new stained glass windows have been added along with an electronic chimes' system.

Founded 55 Years

St. Thomas parish was founded 55 years ago and its first pastor was the Rev. Thomas Pibbs. Father Pibbs was followed by Rev. William Heffern in 1922. The old St. Thomas Church was begun by Father Heffern in 1924. In 1947 Rev. D. H. Markham succeeded Father Heffern.

Unit Meeting

The Elsmere Day Unit of Home Extension Service will open its 1962-63 season on September 10 at 12:30 P.M.

AUXILIARY SCHEDULES FIRST MEETING

The regular meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary, Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Unit #1040, will be held on Tuesday, September 18, at 8 p.m. at the Post Rooms in Elsmere.

Mrs. Harold Barkhuff, president, will report on the Department of New York Convention held in New York City on August 9, 10 and 11.

Mrs. Esther Cooke, chairman of Nominating Committee, will report the selection of the committee for the coming year's officers, which will be followed by election and installation.

Miss Jennifer Flinton, delegate to Empire Girl's State held at New Paltz State College in June, will relate her experiences.

Mrs. Arthur Bahn, Mrs. Henry Bohrmann and Mrs. Charles Vandecar will be hostesses at this meeting.

Blanchard Auxiliary will entertain the Albany County Auxiliary at the Post Rooms in Elsmere on Friday, September 15. Mrs. Robert Hurley will be

PETER FISH NAMED NEW POLICE CHIEF

The Bethlehem Town Board has voted to approve the wishes and suggestions of various organizations and individuals by appointing a new Police Chief. Acting as combined Supervisor and Police Chief for some time, Bertram E. Kohinke has handed the running of the department over to veteran Peter Fish.

The new Chief has served as Lieutenant since January 1, 1962. Chief Fish is married and has six children. He was born and educated in Albany. He served four years with the United States Coast Guard during World War II. He is a graduate of the New York State Police Academy.

At the same meeting, the Board voted to promote Lieutenant Robert Foster to Captain.

Captain Foster is also a police veteran. He is married and has two children. He is in charge of the Juvenile Bureau, and has also graduated from the New York State Police Academy.

Senior Citizens to Meet

Bethlehem Senior Citizens will start their Fall program with an evening meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 13, at the Junior High School.

A discussion on programs for future meetings will be held. Also up for discussion will be the Fall trip to Cooperstown scheduled for October.

chairman for this event.

The annual fall card party of the Auxiliary will be held on Tuesday, October 9, at 8 p.m. in the Post Rooms, and will feature a hat and accessories show by Anne's Hat Box of Delmar. Mrs. Harold Barkhuff, chairman, will be assisted by Mrs. Robert Hurley in charge of tickets and Mrs. Donald Wilcox in charge of door prizes.