

# Father John Holds First High Mass

On Saturday, June 2, at 10:00 o'clock, Fr. John Izral celebrated his first solemn high mass at Catawba before 500 relatives and friends. The outdoor altar, upon a raised platform, was set up by Leo DeBoth, Chester Halverson, Joseph Nabbe-feld, Vincent Adomaitis and Frank Budaj. The procession was led from the church to the altar by the altar boy, Philip Strobl, carrying the processional cross, and by the two-candle bearers, John Nolle and Jimmy Nussberger. They were followed by the flower girls, all of them nieces of the celebrant, Fr. John.

Mary Migas came first, wearing a blue slipper satin floor-length gown, styled with a round neckline and collar, tiny sleeves, fitted bodice and a very full skirt. She was followed by Mary Jo and Barbara Adomaitis, Patricia Schancer, Rosalie and Rose Mary Migas, whose dresses were styled alike in white slipper satin with yellow sashes tied around their waists and matching sweetheart headpieces. All carried white baskets of white and yellow snapdragons.

Rita Adomaitis had the role of "bride," representing the church. She wore a floor length gown of white slipper satin, styled with a fitted bodice of Chantilly lace and long sleeves and a full satin skirt with lace insertions. Her long full net veil was edged with lace and held in place with a crown of pearls and rhinestone. She carried a white satin pillow on which were placed a burse and a myrtle wreath, symbolizing the vow of chastity every priest must make.

The page boys were John and Edward Walkowicz, of Almond, Wis., who held the end of the bride's veil. Billy Adomaitis carried a silver tray of grapes, tied with a gold ribbon, and Francis Budaj, of Chicago, carried a sheaf of wheat, symbolizing the bread and wine used in the sacrifice of the mass. All the page boys wore white suits with gold bow ties.

Fr. John was assisted at the altar by the pastor, Fr. Leon Schloemer as archpriest, Fr. Alcuin Kasny, O.S.B. as deacon and Fr. Joseph Henseler as subdeacon. The Catawba choir, under the direction of Mrs. A. J. Zorn, sang the mass. Fr. Clarence Ludwig preached the sermon, using as his text the words of St. Paul, "Every priest is taken from among men and ordained for men, in the things that pertain to God, that he may offer gifts and sacrifices for sins" (Hebrews 5: 1-2). Immediately after the sermon, Fr. John's father, mother and sisters came up to the altar to receive his priestly blessing.

After the mass, a banquet was held in the VFW hall for approximately 165 relatives and friends. Father Henry Gozanski, of Tony, was the toastmaster. The other speakers were Fr. Joseph Henseler, who congratulated Fr. John in the name of his school, the Josephinum; Vincent Adomaitis, representing the family; and John Migas, representing Fr. John's nieces and nephews. Fr. Schloemer spoke as pastor of Catawba. Lastly, Fr. John thanked all those who had helped in any way to make this day possible to him. During the late afternoon a buffet supper was served to about 400 relatives and friends who had come to meet Fr. John and receive his blessing.

as his text the words of St. Paul, "Every priest is taken from among men and ordained for men, in the things that pertain to God, that he may offer gifts and sacrifices for sins" (Hebrews 5: 1-2). Immediately after the sermon, Fr. John's father, mother and sisters came up to the altar to receive his priestly blessing.

After the mass, a banquet was held in the VFW hall for approximately 165 relatives and friends. Father Henry Gozanski, of Tony, was the toastmaster. The other speakers were Fr. Joseph Henseler, who congratulated Fr. John in the name of his school, the Josephinum; Vincent Adomaitis, representing the family; and John Migas, representing Fr. John's nieces and nephews. Fr. Schloemer spoke as pastor of Catawba. Lastly, Fr. John thanked all those who had helped in any way to make this day possible to him. During the late afternoon a buffet supper was served to about 400 relatives and friends who had come to meet Fr. John and receive his blessing.

The people who came from Phillips or beyond to help Fr. John celebrate his first solemn mass were Joseph Latoche and son, of Gallitzin, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Budaj and sons, Mrs. John Cozzie, Dianne and Michael, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Machaj and son, Mr. and Mrs. John Novak, Sr. and Jr., Mrs. Anna Kisucky, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Kisucky and family, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Novak, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Zubricky and son, Jimmy and Miss Carolyn Zubricky, all of Chicago; Frank Vengrin, Braceville, Ill.; Mrs. Richard Kempen, Milwaukee; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Weyers and daughter, Delores, Black Creek, Wis.; Sr. Mary Catherine, O.S.M., St. Paul, Minn.; Mrs. Joseph Migas and family, Amherst Junction, and Stephen Kempen, Poynette, Wis.

From Phillips were Mr. and Mrs. John Warga and son, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tingo, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Matonak, Mrs. Edward Jasurda and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Jasurda, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jasurda, Mrs. Rosella Ciscon, Florian Ciscon, Mrs. Helenmary Greene, Mrs. Edith Kerwitzer, Miss Hilda Hartmann and Mrs. Joseph Freeman.

Fr. John will report for duty at Jackson, Miss., on June 16.