

To Rome



The Rev. John Westhues

Fr. Westhues Will Study in Vatican City

The Rev. John Westhues, assistant pastor of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, will leave for Rome, Italy, where he will take two years' post graduate course of study in Canon Law at the Apollonarius in Vatican City. Fr. Westhues was selected for this advanced study by His Excellency, The Most Reverend Joseph E. Ritter, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, for his outstanding scholastic record in Kenrick Seminary prior to his ordination.

Rev. Westhues is a graduate of Kenrick Seminary of St. Louis, having been ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Ritter on April 4, 1948. He has been located here for the past four and one half years, and assisted in serving the mission churches at Van Buren, Piedmont and Williamsville.

Fr. Westhues was honored in a special manner last evening, when the entire congregation of Sacred Heart Church gathered in the school auditorium for a reception and farewell party. Monsignor Daniel J. Daly, pastor, gave a few remarks commending Fr. Westhues on his faithful service and spiritual guidance given to the parishioners of Sacred Heart Church. Fr. Westhues has been especially associated with Catholic Youth work and was spiritual director of the local Catholic Youth Organization of the Poplar Bluff Deanery.

Monsignor Daly's address was followed by a short talk from Ed Friedewald, Grand Knight of the local Knights of Columbus and G. L. Saracini, President of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Men of the Poplar Bluff Deanery. Mrs. W. W. Rost, president of St. Ann's Altar Society, gave a short talk of appreciation to Fr. Westhues for the assistance he had given the society, and presented him with a cash gift from the organization.

The reception was under the direction of a committee of ladies of St. Ann's Altar Society with Mrs. W. A. Chambers, Mrs. Chas. (See FR. WESTHUES, page 2)

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Morrison and Mrs. R. L. Watts as hostesses. Mrs. Chas. Corrigan and Mrs. Fred Schach served the punch assisted by Mrs. Gerard Saracini and Mrs. Syl Resnik. Mrs. Joe Suttner and Mrs. Chas. Boyer were in charge of the serving of ice cream and homemade cookies.

Last Wednesday evening the young people of the parish entertained Fr. Westhues with a party in the hall, and presented him with a gift of money.

Fr. Westhues is a member of the Lions Club and Catholic Chaplain of the 140th Missouri National Guard of Poplar Bluff. He has been actively engaged in promoting and encouraging Boy Scout work while here in Poplar Bluff.

Tonight he will be honored by the local Knights of Columbus at a six o'clock dinner in the School Hall.

Fr. Westhues will leave Poplar Bluff early Thursday morning for Jefferson City, where he will visit with his parents, Judge and Mrs. Henry J. Westhues. Rev. Westhues was born and reared in Jefferson City and received his early schooling in the Immaculate Conception Catholic School there.

Judge Westhues, father of Rev. Westhues, is a Supreme Court Commissioner of the State of Missouri. Father Westhues is one of seven children. He has two sisters who are members of a Missionary Order of Nuns, Sister Joan Cordis of Manila, Philippine Islands, of the Maryknoll Order, and Sister Frances Cabrini, a member of the Sisters of Charity and located at Helena, Montana.

Rev. Westhues will sail from New York, on Friday, September 5 for Rome.

As a going away gift from the parishioners of Sacred Heart Church he was given a substantial monied purse last night.