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religion

Two Plainfield High graduates being ordained

By MILORAD B. CARSON

PLAINFIELD — Two former Plainfield High School students, Henry C. Rawls from the class of 1967 and Bertrice Y. Wood, who was graduated in 1969, are being ordained into the clergy this weekend.

Father Rawls, the son of Mrs. James C. Mott of 1800 Bellvue Court, was ordained into the priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church at a ceremony at 10 a.m. today in Sacred Heart Cathedral in Newark.

Mrs. Wood, daughter of Union County Judge W. F. Moore Wood and Mrs. Wood of 1833 Ragswood Court, will be ordained a minister of the United Church of Christ (Congregationalist) at 8 p.m. tomorrow in the First Congregational Church.

Rev. Henry C. Rawls

Father Rawls, who made his decision while still in high school to become a priest, prepared for his theological studies throughout his four years at Seton Hall University in South Orange where he took his degrees in classical languages, Greek, Latin and Hebrew. He then entered Immaculate Conception Seminary in Newark.

He was ordained a deacon last May and has been serving at St. Vincent de Paul parish in Bayonne since that time. The newly ordained priest will give his first priestly blessing following the 12:15 p.m. Mass in St. Mary's Church here tomorrow and will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving at 4 p.m. in the church.

He also will celebrate Mass June 14 at 7 p.m. in St. Vincent de Paul Church. TWENTY-FIVE other priests will celebrate tomorrow's feast of Pentecost at 10 a.m. in St. Mary's Church, where he is in charge of the deacon program, and in the Rev. William Mott's parish, St. Mary's.

The Rev. Michael Moran, also of St. Mary's Church, who has known Father Rawls since he first moved to Plainfield from Newark in 1961, will be his sponsor.

"Henry has always been a 'superperson' to me," said Father Moran. "He is quiet and self-efficient and completely reliable. He makes friends easily and he keeps them."

"For instance," the priest explained, "the reason for the unusually large number of students who will take part in tomorrow's Mass is that Father Rawls has so many friends in the parish who want to share in this special occasion."

During the Mass the Schola Cantorum of which Father Rawls has been a member for some time will perform, directed by Louis Blocker.

The mother of the newly-ordained priest, Mrs. Milla, said she is proud to see her son continue to be involved in the church.

"I had thought he might become a teacher or a doctor," she said. "He likes to help people and he is very much interested in music. But I never thought he would choose to be a priest. I am very proud of him."

Today is a busy day in the Milla household. After attending the ordination ceremony in the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Newark, the family



Rev. Henry Rawls

will return to prepare for the graduation of Father Rawls' younger brother, James, from St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Edison at 8 p.m.

He will enter Manhattan College in St. Paul, Minn., in the fall.

Father Rawls has a sister, Kim, also a student at St. Thomas Aquinas, who hopes for a career as a ballet dancer, and another brother, John, who is a student at St. Mary's School.

John was confirmed a week ago at St. Mary's. Mrs. Milla said, "I am certainly glad all three events didn't come on the same weekend."

Mrs. Milla is a medical secretary at the Veterans Hospital in East Orange and her husband is employed at the Veterans Hospital regional office in Newark.

Miss Bertrice Wood

The ordination service for Miss Wood, who was graduated May 18 from Yale Divinity School with a Master of Divinity degree, will follow a 6 p.m. supper at the church for the participants.

These will include the Rev. Willard A. Bicket, pastor, who will preach, and the Rev. Joan Fensberg, registrar at Yale Divinity School, who will give the prayer of ordination and perform the ritual of "laying on of hands."

The Rev. Eric Martin, pastor of the Dunbar United Church of Christ in Camden, Conn., where Miss Wood has been assisting for the last two years, will give the call to worship, the invocation and will anoint the prospective minister, presenting a robe that is the gift of his congregation.

ALSO TAKING PART will be Floyd Brown, former chairman of the Plainfield church's board of deacons; John Brown, representing the youth group of the Hamilton church; the Rev. Mary Greene of Montclair; Miss Lori Wilmer, director of Christian Education at the local church; the Rev. James Hargett, a pastor of a New Brunswick church; and Daniel Solberg, who will be assistant pastor of the church.

The newly-ordained clergymen will today at graduation ceremonies and in the reception in her honor will follow.

Although Miss Wood plans to engage in campus ministry in New Providence, she will take part in a workshop program of the World Council of Churches at its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, the eight-month period beginning in October.

"I believe that spending some time in



Miss Bertrice Wood

a different culture will benefit my spiritual growth," she said. "And I also will give me a chance to improve my language abilities."

She spent a summer in France during her years at Brown working as a secretary.

The prospective new minister and her parents have been active in the First Congregational Church since 1968. Her father is moderator of the church and her mother was elected to its board of trustees this spring.

Miss Wood began her religious leadership activities here as a church school teacher's assistant.

"TEACHING is the best means for my own learning," she said recently. "I began to sort out in my mind, by teaching, things which previously I had

only memorized and repeated."

Her decision to enter the ministry was not an overnight impulse, she explained, but a gradual development during her student years at Brown University where she eventually changed her major of political science to include religion as well.

"I knew even before I left high school that I might become a minister," she said, "but I was interested in government service, too. It was in college that I began to realize the possibilities of church service far exceed the possibilities of any other vocation I might consider."

Miss Wood saw no conflict between the two areas of study as is evidenced by her senior thesis at Brown in 1972. Her topic was "Radical Responses in Religious Movements: War Resistance."

At the university, she was named the outstanding woman graduate and was one of two senior orators.

"Her speaking ability has been further cultivated during her years at Yale Divinity School and she leads worship services with mature poise as well as giving strong, clear sermons," the Rev. Mr. Bicket declared.

Another clergymen who has worked closely with Miss Wood has praised her imaginative programs for youth as well as her ability to maintain complete leadership control.

"She is mature, winsome, vivacious and has a contagious sense of humor," another colleague in the ministry described Miss Wood. "She is one to whom others relate easily and deeply."

Miss Wood will conduct the Communion service and give the meditation at her church at 10 a.m. services on June 6.

Plainfield Presbyterians to mark 150th anniversary

PLAINFIELD — One hundred and fifty years of Presbyterianism in Plainfield will be marked tomorrow at 11 a.m. during special services in the United Presbyterian Church when 60 members of the church for 30 or more years will be recognized.

They include Mrs. William Holmes, who joined the church in 1896; Mrs. Allen E. Seals, a member since 1900; and Miss Harriet Walls, whose membership spans 74 years.

The Rev. Gregory Keonatan, assistant minister, will celebrate Communion at the service.

The present United Presbyterian Church had its origin in 1828 when 18 persons met to organize the First Presbyterian Church here, the fourth church to be established in the village of Plainfield which had about 40 scattered buildings. The Baptists and Methodists already had churches here and the Friends Meeting House was more than a century old.

Services of the new church were held in the homes of members and in an E. Front Street building known as the Academy. They were conducted from 1830 to 1837 by the Rev. Lewis Bond who was known as a pedagogue as well as a preacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Matthias Bond died

to the church in 1838 the E. Front Street property, which had become known as "maternal house lot" where early services had been held out of doors, and the members built with their own hands from timbers they had felled. The frame building used for the next 23 years.

In 1857 a part of the congregation left to establish the Second Presbyterian Church, now the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church. A few years later, another group formed the Trinity Reformed Church.

Meanwhile, in 1858 the Warren Mission was established in North Plainfield. In 1858 it became the Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Yet another Presbyterian church, Bethel Church, was begun as a mission of the Crescent Avenue Church in 1860 and eight years later the same church organized Hope Chapel, which became the independent Great Avenue Presbyterian Church in 1900.

In 1904, the First Presbyterian Church, under the leadership of the Rev. Gerald T. Krohn, moved to its present site at 282 E. Front St.

Four years ago, Presbyterian history was made here when the Great Avenue and the First Presbyterian Churches consolidated to form the United Presbyterian Church which now has about 800 members. They were the first two churches in the Elizabeth Presbytery to effect such a merger.

The Rev. Theodore C. Gajewski, pastor of St. Stanislaus Church in Plainfield for the last 25 years, will celebrate a Bicentennial program in Zion Lutheran Church Friday at 8 p.m. when the church will hold a concert in the church at 8 p.m. He will be guest of honor at a Polish Night beginning at 7 a.m. today in the Parish Hall.

The Rev. Gerald S. Willis, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of New Providence, will receive a Doctor of Ministry degree today at graduation ceremonies at Princeton Theological Seminary. He was among the first 12 chosen nationally to participate in a pilot study leading to the doctoral degree.

He previously served a church in

Bicentennial program set

TEWKESBURY TOWNSHIP — Victoria Villami, a mass-organizer who spent her childhood years in Oldwick, will present a Bicentennial program in Zion Lutheran Church, Oldwick, at 8 p.m. on June 6 in which she will reflect her lifelong interest in American history and literature as well as in music.

Her program will trace the development of the American art song, through its settings to American poetry, from 1789 to the present. She will intersperse the program with comments on the songs and composers and will describe the historical events in which they were written.

Church concert in Bernardsville

BERNARDSVILLE — Miss Nancy H. Burkhardt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred F. Taylor, will be featured in a concert to be presented by the First Presbyterian Church Friday at 8 p.m. Miss Taylor, a member of the church, is now soprano soloist at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Fort Washington, Pa., and is being graduated this month from Westminster Choir College in Princeton.

Daniel M. Bedworth will be accom-

Keyboard concert

FISCATAWAY — "Music for Two Bordenys" will be presented at 8 p.m. tomorrow in St. Michael's Chapel on the Beach Campus, the Episcopal Chapel at Rutgers University, where Sarah Quigley will be heard on the harpsichord and Dan DSI on the organ playing works by Fanny, Soler, Jannet, Couperin and Proberger.



The Rev. William P. Leask, son of Police Lt. James J. Leask 451 of 451 Fairview Ave., Garwood, was ordained into the priesthood today by Archbishop Peter L. Greco in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newark, and will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow in his home parish, St. Anne's in Garwood.

Church plans tour

PLAINFIELD — Members of the First Presbyterian Church will go on a walking tour in architecturally-interesting old homes in the vicinity of the church on Park Avenue following tomorrow's 10:30 a.m. services. Charles DeWitt will conduct the tour.

Church concert

EDISON — The senior, youth and junior choirs of Our Savior's Lutheran Church will combine to present a concert at 4 p.m. tomorrow which is open to the public without charge. John N. B. Lowe is choir director.



The Rev. Donald F. Clifton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elin Clifton 429 Cuyler Avenue, Garwood, was ordained today in the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart by Archbishop Peter L. Greco. The new priest will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow in the Apostolic Church in Scotch Plains at 5:30 p.m. Friday.

Liberty Corner pastor installed as moderator

The pastor of the Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church for the last eight years, the Rev. Dwight A. White, will be installed as moderator of the 164th Presbytery of Elizabeth which extends from Perth Amboy to Clinton.

As moderator, he will preside at all Presbytery meetings and at ordinations and installations of ministers as well as represent the Presbytery, which is one of seven in the state, at the Synod of the Northeast.

He previously served a church in

Religious activities

A WEEKEND Bible Conference with Dr. Jack Murray, the founder and president of Bible Evangelism Inc., will be held Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Bible Most Baptist Church at New Amwell and Asten Roads, and will continue on Sunday at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. The evangelist is the former pastor of the Church of the Open Door in Philadelphia and previously founded and directed for 10 years the Harvey Cokes Bible Conference.

Guest preacher at 11 a.m.

and 8:30 p.m. services tomorrow in the "Widewater Baptist Chapel" will be James Benson, a language minister program leader for the Southern Baptist Convention of New York. A resident of Ridge Ridge, he formerly was pastor of a bilingual church in Houston, Tex.

Rev. Dwight A. White

Fresno, Calif., for nine years and the Ingleside Church in San Francisco. He previously has served as moderator of the Presbytery of San Francisco.

At services tomorrow at 7:30 p.m.

the Rev. Edward L. Youson, who has been pastor of the First United Presbyterian Church in Mount Carmel, Pa., for the last three years, will be installed as minister of the Oak Tree Presbyterian Church in Edison.

Plan Living Rosary

BAYONNE — The Catholic War Veterans and its Ladies Auxiliary of the Department of New Jersey will present "The Living Rosary," an afternoon of prayer and spiritual devotion to the Holy Virgin, June 1 at 3 p.m. in Veterans Hall, Michael Brennan of Bayonne, a state vice commander, will direct the program.

Masonic service

FLEMINGTON — The Rev. Dr. Lion O'Leary, senior pastor of the Presbyterian Church here, will preside at an 11 a.m. service June 8 for Master Masons of New Jersey and their families on the occasion of the official visit to the 16th Masonic District of John R. Rindge, grand master of the Masons of New Jersey.

THE SALVATION ARMY

EDISON — The Salvation Army will hold a "Night of Prayer" at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow in the 10th Street Church, 10th St. and Broadway, Edison. The service will be held in the 10th Street Church, 10th St. and Broadway, Edison.

NEED HELP? DIAL-A-PRAYER 757-1144

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

651 E. Front St., Plainfield, N.J. Church School — 9:30 A.M. 1 Worship Service — 10:30 A.M. NURSERY CARE AVAILABLE

RELIGIOUS SCIENCE CHURCH

1010 H.A.S. HIGHWAY
SPEAKER: Bill Little
Topic: "No Discounts—Don't Sell Yourself Short"

DIRECTORY OF AREA RELIGIOUS SERVICES	
NORTH PLAINFIELD	PLAINFIELD
<p>UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p>	<p>UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p> <p>UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH 43 E. Front St., Plainfield 07063 10:30 A.M. — Congregationalist 10:30 A.M. — Presbyterian</p>