

GOLDEN JUBILEE
OF
THE REVEREND MARTIN S. WELSH, O.P.



ON JUNE 16, 1956, in a quiet gathering of his family, Father Martin Welsh celebrated the golden jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood at Plainville, Mass. The celebration took place at the Dominican sisters' Academy and Postulate, where he is chaplain. Father Welsh offered a solemn Mass, assisted by the Very Rev. Charles McKenna, O.P., and the Rev. James Sheridan, O.P. The sisters composed the choir, and Father McKenna gave the sermon. After the Mass a dinner was served to the family and guests, as well as the community.

The son of native Irish parents, Father Welsh was born June 4, 1876 in Cambridge, Mass. He was the second child in an illustrious family of 14 children, which included four sets of twins. God gave three of the children to the Order. Besides Father Martin, his younger brother Hubert also became a Dominican priest, and his sister Elizabeth joined St. Catherine's community.

Father Welsh's formal education began in Cambridge and ended in Rome. It continued almost uninterrupted from 1882 to 1909 and took him through many schools: grammar and high school in Cambridge, Boston College, Brighton Seminary for a year, then the houses of study of the province: St. Rose, St. Joseph, the Immaculate Conception, and finally the Minerva in Rome. The degree of Bachelor of Arts, Lector in Sacred Theology, and Doctor of Canon Law successively crowned the course of his studies.

The milestones in Father Welsh's early Dominican life—those occasions so dear to the heart of every Dominican—were his reception of the habit at St. Rose on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in 1901, simple profession on Christmas Day, 1902, solemn profession in 1905 on the same glorious feast, and ordination to the priesthood June 20, 1906. With his classmates Father Finnerty and Father Christmas he was ordained by His Eminence James Cardinal Gibbons in the cathedral of Baltimore.

Returning in 1909 after three years in Rome, the student went to the other side of the desk and became the master. He continued as such for more than forty years. Except for a year as master of novices at Washington, Father Welsh spent the first 14 years at

Aquinas High School in Columbus and the next three decades at Providence College. At Aquinas he was vice rector for a time and later rector. He was also vice rector at the college for eight years until his resignation in 1931, and later held the positions of historiographer and master of laybrothers there. He was then assigned to St. Stephen's Priory in Dover, Mass., before going to Plainville.

Dominicana congratulates Father Welsh on his jubilee in the name of the fathers and brothers of St. Joseph's province. May God continue to bless him with the fruit of his devoted and untiring service.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

OF

THE VERY REVEREND

JOHN LAWRENCE FINNERTY, O.P., P.G.



VERY REVEREND John Lawrence Finnerty, O.P., P.G., observed his fiftieth anniversary of ordination to the sacred priesthood on June 20, 1956, at St. Mary's Priory, New Haven, Connecticut. After a solemn procession from the priory to the church, Father Finnerty celebrated a Solemn High Mass of thanksgiving at St. Mary's, assisted by Rev. Lawrence R. Dolan, O.P., as deacon and by Rev. Timothy E. Quinlan, O.P., as subdeacon. Very Rev. T. F. Conlon, O.P., P.G., preached the congratulatory sermon.

Most Rev. Henry J. O'Brien, Archbishop of Hartford, presided at a dinner in the parish hall. Among those present at the dinner were Very Rev. W. D. Marrin, O.P., P.G., Provincial of St. Joseph's Province, Very Rev. C. W. Burke, O.P., Vicar General of the Dominican Order in Japan, Very Rev. V. R. Burnell, O.P., P.G., Prior of St. Mary's Priory and The Honorable Richard Lee, Mayor of New Haven. Many fellow Dominican priests, secular priests and sisters from various communities combined to make about 250 people present for the jubilee dinner.

Father Finnerty, the son of John and Hannah Sullivan Finnerty, was born in Albany, New York, May 15, 1877. He attended the