



*Father Louis Rausch, center, celebrating his Silver Jubilee in 1956 was joined by several priests*

services and social events.

The new decade of the '50s brought with it a thanksgiving for achievement. On March 25, 1950, the main altar of the new church was consecrated by the late former vicar general, Monsignor Edward Hoar. On April 8, 1950, the Sacrament of Penance was celebrated for the first time in the new edifice and, on the following day, April 9, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered in the new church. The day was Easter, and the parishioners of Blessed Sacrament Church had an even more powerful glimpse of the Resurrection as they rejoiced in the Paschal Mysteries in their new house of worship. On June 11, 1950, the church was solemnly dedicated by Archbishop Molloy, who also celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. On July 29, 1953, the parish joined with its sister parishes as the Diocese of Brooklyn celebrated the 100th Anniversary of its founding.

On Sunday, June 6, 1954, the parish had a twofold celebration: Father McMahon celebrated the 45th Anniversary of his ordination and the parish celebrated its silver

jubilee. A gala dinner-dance was held at the Hotel Roosevelt in Manhattan to honor both occasions. On May 7, 1954, in recognition of his long years of service to the Church, Pope Pius XII honored Father McMahon with the title of Monsignor.

### *Monsignor McMahon— Founding Pastor*

**M**onsignor James McMahon, born October 4, 1885, ordained June 5, 1909, died August 19, 1958, was the man who successfully carved, engineered, innovated, maneuvered, and created Blessed Sacrament. Through his endeavors, the church has sustained itself for fifty years and continues to grow. The parish as it exists today is, in a large part, the legacy of Monsignor McMahon. A dedicated man, beloved by all, his memory continually spurs the present parishioners of the church onward to renew their faith in the Blessed Sacrament and, in so doing, to keep the parish strong as a monument to what he accomplished.

### *Changes*

**I**n the Fall of 1958, Archbishop McEntegart, who had been appointed Bishop of Brooklyn the previous year after the death of Archbishop Molloy, assigned Father John King to be the new pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church. It was at this time that the Diocese of Brooklyn was split; the eastern counties of Nassau and Suffolk became the newly established Diocese of Rockville Centre, while Brooklyn (King's County) and Queens County remained within the Brooklyn Diocese. Shortly before the death of Monsignor McMahon, Father John Newell was sent as a newly ordained priest and he was, after Father Rausch, to serve the second longest term in the parish. On March 16, 1961, Father King was elevated to the rank of Monsignor by Pope John XXIII, and in June, 1966, he celebrated his fiftieth year as a priest.

It was becoming apparent that the school could benefit from the addition of twelve classrooms, a gym, and new office space. Under the guidance of Monsignor King, assisted by Father William O'Leary, the cornerstone of this extension was laid in 1966. Furthermore, the large schoolyard was paved and extensions were put on the rectory and the garages. In November, 1967, Archbishop