

Cardinal Stritch To Dedicate New Chapel On Dec. 2; Half of Furnishings Donated To Date

By Msgr. A. J. Burke, President

In this issue of the *Alumnus* I want to make a report to all Ambrosians on the new chapel. The date of dedication has been set for December 2nd. His Eminence, Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, has accepted the invitation of Bishop Hayes to bless the Chapel of Christ, the King, and to deliver the sermon. Bishops of the middlewest will be invited, and it is expected that some thirty bishops will be in attendance. December 2nd will be a memorable day in the annals of St. Ambrose.

However, we expect to use the chapel before the date of dedication. It is hoped that we can begin services for students on their return in September. Certainly the building will be completed and furnished by Homecoming this fall so that all returning alumni will be able to attend mass in the new chapel on Sunday, October 25th.

I know that all alumni share with me the great satisfaction I feel in the wonderful response to our appeal for donations. Students, parents of students, student clubs, faculty individuals and groups, alumni, parish and diocesan organizations, and individual friends have responded generously and in numbers.

Among the items that have been given to-date are: the main altar, the Blessed Mother's altar, fifteen of the sixteen chapels in the lower church, the organ, ten chalices, two ciboria, two of the four confessionals, a set of electronic bells for the tower, three tabernacles, eleven stations of the cross, two windows, nine missals, nine sets of vestments, the crucifix and tester over the main altar.

If we are to receive eventually every item on the list of required articles of furnishing that was published in the February issue of the *Alumnus*, I should judge that we have now reached the half-way mark. Yet to be donated are albs, altar card sets, altar linens, a canopy for the Blessed Sacrament, candle sticks, choir cassocks and surplices, credence tables, crucifixes, a lecturn, missals, missal stands, a monstrance, a sedilia, vestments, and windows. Some items such as pews, choir stalls, altar and

organ screens — all of which amount to considerable sums—will have to be paid for not by individual donations but by the accumulation of smaller undesignated gifts.

We have not put on a "drive" for chapel gifts, but have simply stated our needs and published the names of donors in the *Catholic Messenger* each week. The public generally has watched these reports with interest as is evidenced by the reprints in the local papers.

It would seem that my principal task this year has been to raise money for St. Ambrose. I would judge that every college president in the United States has been occupied with the same task. Besides the chapel donations that I have solicited, I watch with concern, and at the same time with confidence, the daily reports on contributions to

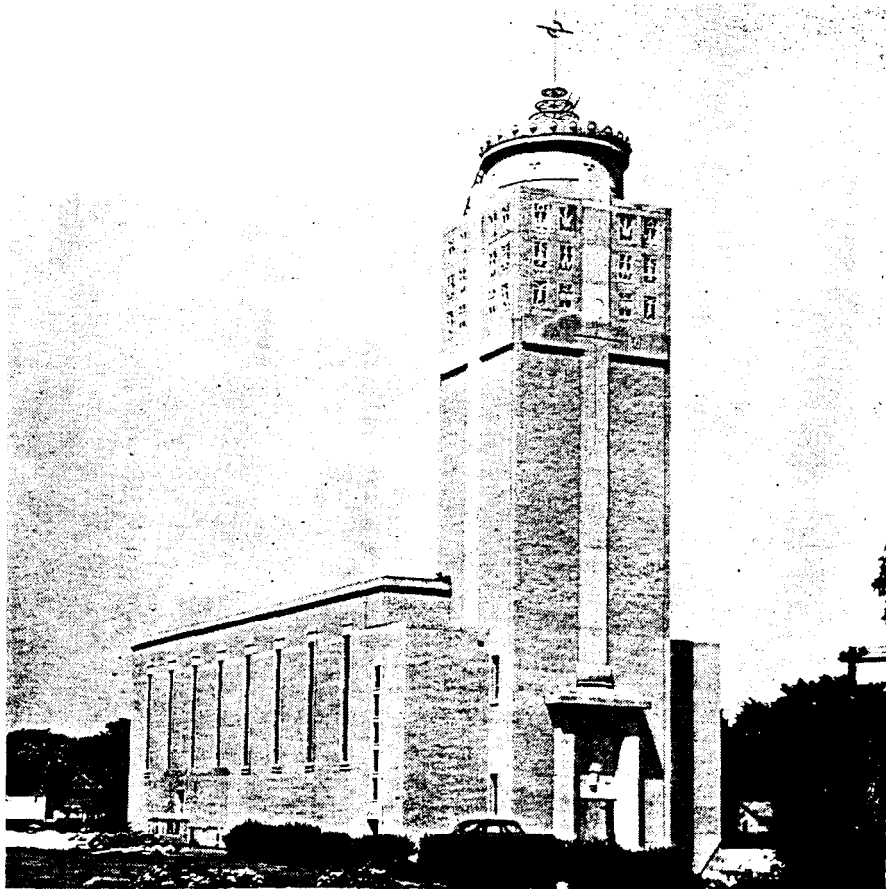


THE AMBROSIAN ALUMNUS

Published monthly by the Alumni
Office of St. Ambrose College

the Living Endowment. My third venture in fund raising has been with the Iowa College Foundation. I hope to report on this Foundation in the September issue of the *Alumnus*.

Here is a personal note. On July 1st I am sailing for Europe. On my itinerary is a visit to the Basilica of St. Ambrose. I shall say mass in the crypt chapel of the Basilica with the body of St. Ambrose lying immediately back of the table altar. I shall offer my mass at the Basilica for all Ambrosians, past and present, asking our great patron to intercede for the College and for all her loyal sons and daughters.



THE NEW COLLEGE CHAPEL—The completed exterior of the new St. Ambrose Chapel of Christ the King is pictured above. Interior furnishings will be installed during the summer, in preparation for the solemn dedication by Cardinal Stritch on December 2.