

Historic St. Gabriels Closes; Move to School Auditorium

Father Time Makes Mark on Roof; Precautionary Measure

For more than 130 years the Solemn Mass has been offered in historic St. Gabriel's Church. A structural problem has necessitated closing the church until the repairs and renovation projects can be completed. Rev. Earl L. Burns, S.J., pastor of the church, stated the closing was a precautionary measure.

Masses will be held in the new school auditorium during the holidays and the continued closing period, of the historic church. Father Time marked his actions a little early by a small crack in the ceiling.

An engineer from La Crosse stated the old construction and years of use had created the crack. Through a conference with church officials the transfer to the auditorium was made.

Pews will be removed from the church, a new floor will be afforded, with repair and other designs being made according to the architect plans. Hackner and Schroeder and Associates, who designed the new school, will direct the renovation work. Steiner Bros. have contracted for the repair project of the historic edifice. Work will be completed as soon as possible.

To alleviate the congestion in the auditorium their will be nine masses offered during Christmas. Midnight mass will be the first then from 5:00 every hour until 10:30 there will be masses. One is scheduled at noon and another again at 5:00 in the evening. Parish priests Rev. Earl L. Burns, S.J.; Rev. David Brehm, S.J., and Rev. Jerald Day, S.J. will conduct the various masses. Confessions will be noted at the school for the holidays.