

FREEPORT

Religion:

Fr. Brendan is Posted to Freeport

After twenty-five years of priestly service in Nassau, the Very Reverend Brendan F. Forsyth, O.S.B., will move to

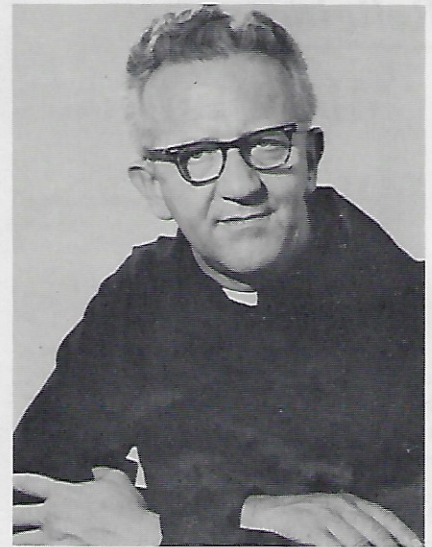
Freeport to take up pastoral duties at Mary, Star of the Sea Church. The post includes, as well, administering to five outlying mission churches on Grand Bahama Island.

The Colorado-born missionary, ordained at Minnesota's St. John's Abbey in 1940, brings a wealth of experience with him to the Bahamas "second city". First assignment was as curate at St. Francis Xavier's Cathedral where, in 1947, he became pastor. Eight years later, the capable administrator was appointed to the vital post of diocesan Chancellor.

After two years' study at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., Father Brendan returned to Nassau with a degree in Canon Law. The scholarly Benedictine also holds a B.A. from Regis College and a M.A. in Education from Detroit University.

In 1958 the Chancellor-Officialis took over the pastorate of SS. Peter and Paul Church in Chippingham — a tiny wooden structure he dubbed "God's Chicken Coop." During the same busy year, he was named Superintendent of Catholic Schools, involving the education of more than 5,000 Bahamian students.

Former hospital chaplain and assistant chaplain to the R.A.F. during war years, Father Brendan also acted as priest-in-charge at the Lazaretto, government-administered leper colony in New Providence. He was especially won by the patience and acceptance of his spiritual charges there — an edifying

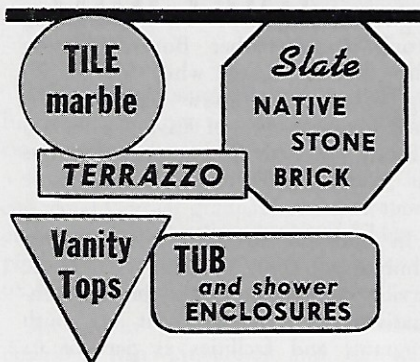


VERY REV. BRANDON FORSYTH,
O.S.B.
... After 25 Years in Nassau

lesson he often mentioned in sermons to parishioners and tourists at the Cathedral.

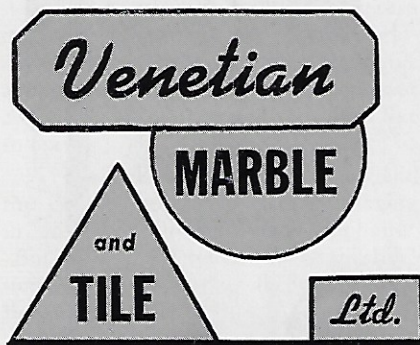
The Bahamas Catholic Hour, beamed over ZNS every Sunday, and the Catholic Library and Information Centre were both initiated by the Benedictine missionary who celebrated his silver anniversary as a priest earlier this year. A testimonial dinner here in Nassau will be tendered by grateful friends and parishioners during September.

Appointed by Bishop Paul Leonard Hagarty, O.S.B., as Rector of St. Francis Xavier's Cathedral in 1961, Father Brendan has been succeeded there by another able administrator who has seen long service in the Bahamas, Reverend Elias Achatz, O.S.B. Chancellor's duties in Nassau have been assumed by Reverend John Finger.



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