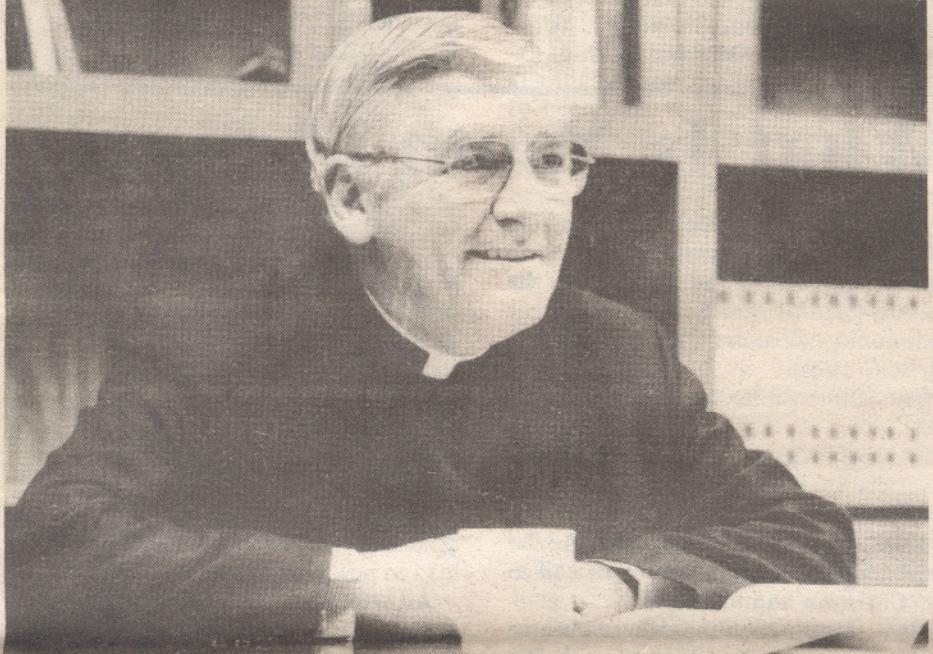


information would also be most helpful. Please write with suggestions or corrections and send contributions to THE HARVEST, Diocese of Great Falls-Billings, P. O. Box 1399, Great Falls, Montana 59403.

Bishop Murphy Transferred To Seattle



Tribune Photo

On Wednesday, May 27th, Pope John Paul II announced the appointment of Bishop Thomas J. Murphy as Coadjutor Archbishop of Seattle. The announcement was made in Washington, D.C. by Archbishop Pio Laghi, Papal Pro-Nuncio to the United States. At the same time, a report was made public by a specially appointed Commission which called for the restoration of Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen's authority that had been delegated to Bishop Donald Wuerl in key areas of Church responsibility.

The special Commission composed of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin of Chicago, John Cardinal O'Connor of New York and Archbishop John Quinn of San Francisco presented their final report to Pope John Paul II in mid-May. The Commission had been established to assess the situation of the Church in the Archdiocese of Seattle and to offer recommendations which would help respond to issues which had received national attention. Pope John Paul II accepted the Commission's recommendations which included restoration of Archbishop Hunthausen's full powers, the appointment of a Coadjutor Archbishop and the transfer of Bishop Donald Wuerl.

The Commission will remain in existence for one year to assist Archbishop Hunthausen in responding to issues of concern outlined in a letter from Cardinal Ratzinger of the Vatican outlining concerns regarding the life of the Church in the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Archbishop Hunthausen, 65, a native of Anaconda, Montana had served previously as Bishop of Helena and was transferred to Seattle in 1975. In commenting on the appointment of Bishop Murphy, Archbishop Hunthausen said, "I am genuinely grateful to our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, for the appointment of Bishop Thomas J. Murphy as my Coadjutor."

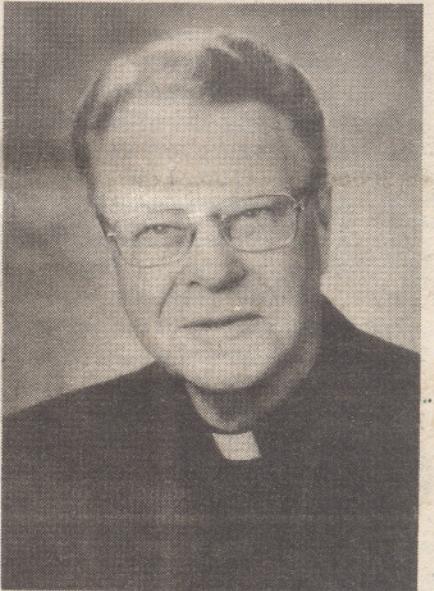
"I see his appointment as an opportunity for us to move forward together as a Church after a long and very difficult period of struggle and uncertainty."

"Bishop Murphy is someone I regard as both a friend and a trusted co-worker. He is a wonderfully energetic and committed servant of the Church who has brought a tremendous amount of vitality as well as an inspiring vision of the Church of Eastern Montana during his years there. The priests and people of the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings will not, I am sure, find it easy to say goodbye to

Seattle by our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, is a great honor. I have responded to this request of the Holy Father in a spirit of prayer and hope that I may be of help and service to the Church of Seattle. I look forward especially to working with Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen, the priests, deacons, religious and laity of Seattle."

"However, in accepting this appointment, I do so with the awareness that I am leaving the Church of Eastern Montana which I have served for almost nine years. During these years, Eastern Montana has become my home. To leave home is always difficult. I have grown to love the Church, the people and the land of Eastern Montana. I have deeply appreciated the support and encouragement which this vibrant and alive Church of the Diocese of Great Falls-

Bishop Schuster Celebrates 50th Anniversary Of Ordination



A packed church, dozens of people of all ages by the name of Schuster, 12 Bishops, two Abbots, and almost 100 priests and another 100 religious women, and lay people from throughout Eastern Montana — this unusual combination was the setting for a diocesan celebration honoring Bishop Eldon Schuster on his 50th anniversary of priesthood ordination on Tuesday, May 26th at St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Great Falls. The celebration also recognized Bishop Schuster's 25th anniversary of ordination as a Bishop which occurred on December 21st, 1986.

Earlier in the afternoon, a special dinner was held for Bishop Schuster attended by his relatives, as well as the Bishops, abbots, priests, and religious. At the dinner, Fr. Tony Schuster and Pete Schuster offered a toast on behalf of the Schuster family while Bishop Eldon Curtiss shared a toast on behalf of the Bishops of Region XII. Fr. Mike Kirkness spoke on behalf of the priests of the Diocese who gave Bishop Schuster a gift of a trip to the Holy Land and Sr. Pat Toeckes, S.C.L. congratulated the Bishop on behalf of the religious women. Archbishop William

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Harvest

House of Great Falls-Billings

OF THE HARVEST. The HARVEST is sent to each household in the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings. Contributions to help us are most appreciated. Likewise, suggestions and corrections and duplicate mailing labels are welcome. Please write with suggestions or corrections to THE HARVEST, Diocese of Great Falls-Billings, Montana 59403.

Why Transferred



Tribune Photo

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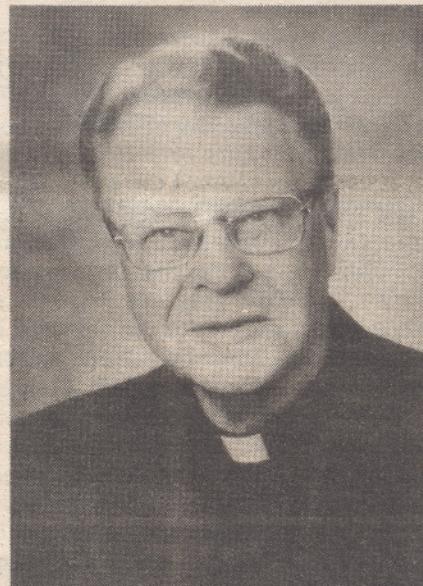
"I see his appointment as an opportunity for us to move forward together as a Church after a long and very difficult period of struggle and uncertainty."

the Bishop who has served them so well for the past nine years."

In his public statement, Bishop Murphy said, "To be named Coadjutor Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Seattle by our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, is a great honor. I have responded to this request of the Holy Father in a spirit of prayer and hope that I may be of help and service to the Church of Seattle. I look forward especially to working with Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen, the priests, deacons, religious and laity of Seattle."

"However, in accepting this appointment, I do so with the awareness that I am leaving the Church of Eastern Montana which I have served for almost nine years. During these years, Eastern Montana has become my home. To leave home is always difficult. I have grown to love the Church, the people and the land of Eastern Montana. I have deeply appreciated the support and encouragement which this vibrant and alive Church of the Diocese of Great Falls-

Bishop Schuster Celebrates 50th Anniversary Of Priesthood



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Billings has shared with me. It has been a privilege to have served as the Bishop of this diocese."

Bishop Murphy is scheduled to leave Montana on July 9th and will be welcomed as Coadjutor Archbishop of Seattle at a special ceremony at St. James Cathedral on Monday, July 13th. Bishop Murphy presently serves as Diocesan Administrator for the Church of Eastern Montana. The Board of Consultors, a group of ten priests of the Diocese, will elect a Diocesan Administrator to be in charge of the Diocese until a new Bishop is appointed by Pope John Paul II.

Bishop Schuster resigned from his position as Diocesan Bishop at the end of December in 1977 and the announcement of Bishop Murphy's appointment did not take place until July 5th, 1978. Bishop Murphy was ordained and installed as the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings on August 21, 1978.

Eastern Montana.

A choir composed of people from throughout the community provided the music for the liturgy accompanied by a musical ensemble. The music was under the direction of Sr. Lorraine Flaspeter, OSB and the liturgy was coordinated by Rev. Frank Kelly. Bishop Thomas Murphy preached the homily. The text of the homily at Bishop Schuster's celebration follows:

"My prayer is that you may learn to value the things that really matter." (Phil. 1:9-10)

"I give no thought to what lies behind but push on to what is ahead." (Phil. 3:13)

"Feed my lambs. Tend my sheep." (John 21:15-16)

I share these excerpts from the Word of God proclaimed to us this evening because in so many ways they capture the reason why we have gathered here to celebrate this Eucharist. We come here tonight with Bishop Eldon Bernard Schuster to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood