

# Father Hilary Celebrates First Solemn High Mass

Father Hilary Reginald Cooper OSB, the younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Cooper, will celebrate his first Solemn High Mass in St. Jude's Church at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



Father Hilary received his elementary education at St. Jude's School and upon its completion was awarded the Father Harold Purcell Memorial Scholarship for high school studies. During this time he received gold medals in Mathematics, Spanish, and Religion.

In the spring of his sophomore year of high school he was awarded a Ford Foundation Scholarship in an accelerated program which allowed him to begin his college studies at Morehouse College, Atlanta, the following fall. In the course of his college work he transferred to Xavier University in New Orleans, where he reached his decision to become a priest.

Father Hilary began his seminary training at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Conception, Mo., in 1957 and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Scholastic Philosophy. He was professed a Benedictine monk of Conception Abbey in 1962 and resumed his theological studies, receiving a Master of Arts in Religion from Conception Seminary and a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree from Catholic University of

America in Washington, D.C.

Father Hilary will be ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Charles H. Helmsing of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Mo. on Tuesday, Aug. 10 at the Conception Abbey Basilica.

Future plans call for Father Hilary to begin graduate studies for a degree in Religious Education and upon its reception he will become a professor at Conception Seminary in Missouri.