

'National' Catholic Church Is Made Regular Parish Here

The successful merger of various nationalities in the St. Louis "melting pot" over the years was underlined yesterday with the changing of one of the last few "national" Catholic churches in the city into a "territorial" or parish church with specific boundaries.

The national churches were established to serve the needs of the immigrants from Europe, and in the early history of the archdiocese there were national churches for the Germans, the Poles, Croats, Italians and the Irish.

A characteristic of the national churches is the preaching of the sermons in the native language of the nationality served. There are no parish boundaries for the "national" churches, and Poles living in another parish, for example, were permitted to attend the parish where their language was spoken.

Under the decree published yesterday, Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter defined boundaries for St. Adalbert's parish in northwest St. Louis, a former national parish for Poles.

Under the change, all Catholics in the new boundaries are obliged to attend mass at St. Adalbert's and persons who formerly attended St. Adalbert's, but who live in other parishes, are notified to attend mass in the parish in which they live.

Historic St. Elizabeth Church Is Closed

Historic St. Elizabeth Church, 2721 Pine st., the oldest Negro Catholic parish in St. Louis, has been closed and is being razed, it been closed and is being razed.

Records of the parish, operated by priests of the Society of Jesus since its founding in 1873, will be transferred to near-by St. Malachy's Church, 2904 Clark ave., also operated by Jesuits.

The rectory and former school

of St. Elizabeth's were housed in the mansion built by Robert W. Funkhouser in 1858, and religious services were held in an adjacent chapel built about 60 years ago.

The church was closed because of its nearness to St. Malachy's which also operates a school. St. Elizabeth's School was discontinued several years ago.

BOUNDARIES DEFINED

St. Elizabeth's parish, since its founding, has been regarded as an informal city-wide parish with specific boundaries waived.

Removal of interior fixtures of the building was started yesterday by the Aalco Wrecking Company, Fourteenth street and Chouteau avenue, and wrecking of the exterior will begin Monday, Harry Hochman, president, announced. James J. Keough is in charge of the wrecking operations.

Educator to Speak

Dr. Peyton N. Rhodes, president of Southwestern College at Memphis, Tenn., will be guest speaker tonight at the fifty-sixth annual dinner of the Tennessee Society of St. Louis, to be held at the St. Louis Woman's Club, 4600 Lindell bl.

CHURCHMEN'S FORUM

The Churchmen's Forum of St. Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church, St. Louis and Warne avenues, will discuss "Causes of the Present World Crises—Change in Social Orders" at 9:30 a. m. tomorrow.



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