



Warren L. Clark

Clark Promoted To Vice-President Of Development

Father John P. Bradley, President of Belmont Abbey College, recently announced that Mr. Warren L. Clark has been promoted to the position of Vice-President of Development at the College.

Clark, a native of Flushing, New York, came to North Carolina almost six years ago, and has served as Dean of Students at Belmont Abbey College since July 1970. Before beginning his career at the Abbey, Clark had served 23 years in the U. S. Military, where he rose to the rank of Lt. Col.

Clark assumes the newly created Vice-President of Development position during Belmont Abbey College's Centennial Fund Campaign. He will be responsible for comple-

tion of the Centennial Fund drive and for future fund raising and planning for the College.

When asked what he hopes to accomplish in the new position, Clark commented that among his goals were to broaden the base of financial support, and to further develop leadership to achieve this goal.

Clark further explained that he thinks that it will be a challenging position, which will require the full utilization of his six years experience with the College.

No official word has been released as to who will be selected to replace Clark as Dean of Students. Approximately 75 applications for the post have been received.

SPOTLIGHT

By FR. JAMES SOLARI, O.S.B.

Fr. Oscar, Chaplain And Director Of Campus Ministry

Oscar Burnett, Jr. was born in Savannah, Ga. during the roaring twenties! Perhaps this fact is symbolic — for he still creates an uproar in his ministry to the students as Chaplain and Director of the Campus Ministry. Fr. Oscar had contact with Benedictines of Belmont during his youth, both through Sacred Heart Church and Benedictine High, which he attended. His undergraduate degree was earned at Armstrong College in his native city and graduate studies in law were completed at Emory University in Atlanta. He was a practicing attorney for five years before the attraction to the monastic life brought him to Belmont in 1957. After a year of novitiate he was admitted to vows and began his seminary studies at the Abbey. He served as socius to the novices who followed him and managed also to teach Business law and Constitutional law in the College during these years. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1962.

For three years he was the Dean of Students in the College — memorable years for so many of our alumni who recall that he once felt constrained to bring to an abrupt halt a concert in the Haid gymnasium when the selection of songs became offensive. During this period he was vigorous in requiring students to observe regulations but equally concerned that all should be treated fairly and with understanding.

He was next assigned to serve in the Priory in Richmond. For a year and a half he worked as assistant pastor of St. Benedict's Church and taught at Benedictine High School. In 1970, he he was recalled to Belmont by Abbot Edmund to become sub-prior of the monastery, Novice Master, and Procurator. He very ably filled these demanding offices for the next two years. In 1973 he asked to be appointed full-time Chaplain of the students — the position he now fills with great enthusiasm.

Fr. Oscar is the first such full-time person to serve the campus minis-

try. His appointment marked a new departure and concern for this highly important facet of campus life. Under his direction, many willing hands collaborated in a thorough renovation of the former TKE fraternity house. This resulted in the beautiful Chi-Rho Center for Campus Ministry.

The goal of this Campus Ministry is to

Hendersonville, Asheville, and Burnsville (in the mountains). "Students are what the Ministry is all about," he says. "My personal goal is to reach more of them and to attempt to get them involved in God's service."

Fr. Oscar is grateful for the substantial support he receives from the Faculty and Adminis-



Fr. Oscar, O.S.B.

build community on campus in order to hear witness for Christ through worship and acts of brotherly love. Fr. Oscar, (the Big "O" — as he is affectionately known to students) has organized a remarkable variety of activities and projects to engage students actively in ministry: regular visits to the correctional center in Dallas, N. C., to orphanages, to hospitals, to homes for the aged, projects to assist poor of the area.

Fr. Oscar is, of course, a pastor to students first and foremost. He provides sacramental ministry, is available at most hours of day and night for counselling, is often at students' side in difficulties, whether before civil court or disciplinary hearings.

A series of student retreats has been another of his special concerns — these have been conducted at sites which are conducive to self-examination and meditation such as: Ocean Isle (on the coast),

tration of the College, yet he knows that additional funds are needed to supply services to the variety of persons touched through the Campus Ministry. At present he is looking for a vehicle to transport students to the above mentioned places where they can offer Christian service.

Anyone know of such a vehicle that he might use?

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Acting Editor:
R. HOWARD SUGGS

Photos by:
STEVE OHNESORGE
JEFF SAILSTAD
CHARLIE GRISSOM

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