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Office of Public Information, "College President Named Interim Coordinator at USD" (1969). *News Releases*. 217.

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NEWS RELEASE



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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLLEGE PRESIDENT NAMED INTERIM COORDINATOR AT USD

SAN DIEGO, Calif.--The Very Rev. John E. Baer, president of the University of San Diego College for Men has been named interim coordinator for the unification program at USD.

At the Commencement ceremonies June 1, the Most Rev. Bishop Francis J. Furey, Chancellor of USD and Bishop of San Diego, announced the appointment of Father Baer when he reported the steady progress of steps towards unification of the two undergraduate colleges and the School of Law on the campus.

"Much, very much, has been accomplished during the short space of one year," said Bishop Furey.

"As typical examples of admirable cooperation, may I mention the first joint convocation of honors students; the first combined Homecoming celebrations by alumni of all three schools on the campus, the merger of the two undergraduate student bodies and the consequent election of officers," he said.

The Bishop also said that both the University and the College for Women had added members to their boards of trustees, "including knowledgeable laymen and laywomen."

As interim coordinator, Father Baer will ensure that the program of unification continues smoothly. He will remain president of the USD College for Men.

Father Baer has been president of the USD College for Men since June, 1968. He was ordained in Rome in 1956 after completing theological studies at North American College and Gregorian University where he earned the bachelor and licentiate degrees in Sacred Theology. (MORE)

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He was assistant pastor at St. Anne's Church, San Bernardino and taught at Aquinas High School there. He returned to the Gregorian University in Rome in 1961 to take his doctoral studies which he completed in 1963. On his return to the United States he was named president of his alma mater, St. Francis College, El Cajon. The college moved to the USD campus in 1966 and is now the St. Francis Seminary.

Bishop Furey told the graduation audience of 3000: "Brighter days are ahead for all of us. I hope and I believe that brighter days are ahead for all institutions of higher learning. In the meantime, let me repeat what I said last fall: 'The University is of the Diocese, by the Diocese and for the Diocese. It shall not perish from the earth.'"

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