

[anonymou] Ed Dolinar who arrived July 1. Father Ed was ordained a priest on May 29, 1978, in his hometown of Rock Springs. He had been a deacon at St. Mary's Cathedral and while there taught Theology in St. Mary's High School.

Father Ed had studied at St. Thomas Seminary in Denver and received a Master of Divinity Degree in the spring of 1978. His parents are Ed and Minnie Dolinar of Rock Springs. With two similar names — Delaney and Dolinar — many parishioners called Father Dolinar "Father Ed." One parishioner was totally confused one day when she called the rectory, and finally said she wanted to talk to the 'old' priest.

### Biography of Father Edward A. Dolinar and His Autobiographical Comments about Rock Springs

A native of Rock Springs, Edward Dolinar was ordained to the priesthood May 29, 1978. The son of Minnie and Ed Dolinar, Ed was born and grew up here. He attended the Catholic School and Rock Springs High School. He earned a BA degree in social studies at St. Thomas School of Theology.

In April of 1977, Father Dolinar was ordained to the Order of Deacon at St. Mary's Cathedral. He was also a part-time faculty member of St. Mary's High School. After completing a Masters of Divinity degree, he was ordained by the Most Rev. Hart, Bishop Designate of the Diocese of Cheyenne. The Most Rev. Hubert Newell, retired Bishop of Cheyenne, presided at the ordination Mass on May 30, a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving in Our Lady of Sorrows Church.

In a recent letter from Father Dolinar, he made the following comments about Rock Springs. "Rock Springs is called so many things by so many people. Years ago it was even nicknamed 'Sin City.' For me and others it's 'HOME.' There really isn't anything like 'HOME.' Rock Springs is unique in so many ways. It isn't the most beautiful spot in Wyoming, but in its own way it is beautiful to me."

[RS OLS 1987, 94] I'm so grateful for the deep roots of my heritage. Rock Springs has been such a "melting pot" for all nationalities. For that I'm really grateful as well. Where else could a person find such richness of culture and varieties of food. I think that Rock Springs is world famous for the varieties of foods — all we have to do is look at the cookbooks which have been printed in Rock Springs. I learned a lot about the world in this small town in Southwestern Wyoming. I learned to be accepting and loving of all types of people. I didn't really know what prejudice was until moving to the city. The warmth and signs of caring have been very evident in my life, particularly did I experience this in the time of Ordination. I can remember people pulling together for the Ordination as I remember so many other times when there was the need.

I remember too how fun loving people were in my period of "growing up." There are not quite any Ordination or Wedding Celebrations like those in Rock Springs. I find that our ancestors have given us a very valuable gift in our ability to laugh and to enjoy life. I

have been in many places since being born in Sweetwater County Memorial Hospital 35 years ago, but there just isn't anywhere quite like Rock Springs.

When asked where I'm from, I tell them, and then they get a rather peculiar look on their faces. I even had a T-shirt once that was given to me as a joke. It read, "People from Rock Springs are living proof that there is life on other planets." That is how some people react to my origins. Rock Springs and Nazareth are compared often in that they are out of the way places and had reputations. In the time of Jesus, when asked his place of birth, people often looked at him the same way. It was even said of him, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Just look who He was — He proved them wrong. I think all of us born with coal dust in our veins can be proud of our heritage. Many great people have their roots here. What more can a person say? **ROCK SPRINGS IS "HOME."**