CHOIR BOYS — Michael Goudeau, foreground, top photo, director of the Mount Carmel Boys' Choir, tells the Abbeville Rotary club about the organization of the youthful musical group at a December 19 meeting at which the choir boys entertained. The membership of 30 youths from the fifth to the eighth grades at the Catholic school is shown in the top and bottom photos. The choir has won superior ratings at district music festivals and was selected to sing at the banquet honoring Most Rev. Warren Boudreaux, newly-consecrated bishop of the Lafayette diocese, and the group chanted the Christmas midnight mass at St. Mary Magdalen church in Abbeville.

Mount Carmel Choir Boys Entertain Rotarians
Sing Christmas Midnight Mass At Local Church

The Mount Carmel Boys' Choir, with a membership of 30 youths attending the Mount Carmel elementary school in Abbeville, rendered several Christmas carols for the Abbeville Rotary club at its December 19 meeting.

They are the fifth to eighth graders at that school who sang the Christmas midnight mass at St. Mary Magdalen church. The boys are selected from try-outs and are chosen as members of the choir on the basis of their potential ability to master music.

The choir boys are given extensive training in music for the purpose of learning and performing fine music. They have developed into a choir which has taken several ratings at music festivals after a year of training which began as part of classroom requirements in a music program.

Goudeau says that these boys are now beginning to recognize the value of music as an art and as a great joy now and in later life.

The Rotarians heard the young choir group that has brought much honor to the community in its short period of organization. The boys told the honor of having been selected to sing at the banquet honoring Most Rev. Warren Boudreaux, newly-consecrated bishop of the Lafayette diocese, last summer, and for the diocesan teachers' convention.

They have won two superior ratings at diocesan and the Louisiana Music Education Association district music festivals this year.

For the Christmas midnight mass at St. Mary Magdalen church, they formed a choir honor guard in the procession to the manger for the placing of the Christ Child in His crib. They also chanted the mass.

Director Goudeau is a native of Celtonport. He is a graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana where he received his bachelor of music degree. He obtained his master's degree in music from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D. C.