*Upper Leam' gets a priest-in-charge

A NEW priest-in-charge has been appointed to look after the villages of Grandborough. Willoughby and Flecknoe

Jonathon Merrett is to become assistant curate with the Upper Leam group

of parishes.

Mr Merrett (29) will have special responsibilities for Grandborough, Willoughby and Flecknoe for two years, during which time a ministry development programme is to be started.

The Bishop of Coventry announced this week that Mr Merrett's 'licensing' will take place at Grandborough parish church on June 27.

He will be responsible to the Rev John Eardley, chairman of the group chapter. Other parishes in the group include Leamington Hastings and Birdingbury, Bourton with Frankton and Stretton-on-Dunsmore with Princethorpe.

A native of Cheltenham. Mr Merrett attended school at Bishop's Cleeve. He obtained a Degree of Music at University College of Bangor before his theological training at Ripon College, Cuddesdon.

He is currently an assistant curate at St

Nicholas, Kenilworth.

MARRIED

A married man, Mr Merrett's wife, Jill, is a peripatetic teacher of hearing impaired children

Coventry.

Mr Merrett's interests include playing the flute, singing with the Oken Singers, running his MG sports car and, when time allows, playing cricket.

Car gutted

A STOLEN Ford Escort Estate car was found gutted near Rugby on Monday night.

The 'R' registration Escort was discovered at the Little Lawford Road/B4112 junction after it had been reported stolen in Southam.