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Father Groppi to speak March 7 at University

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FATHER GROPPi TO SPEAK
MARCH 7 AT UNIVERSITY

MISSOULA--

A militant civil rights priest, Father James Groppi, will present a free public lecture at 8:15 p.m. Tuesday (March 7) in the University Center Ballroom at the University of Montana.

Tuesday's lecture, which is sponsored by the Program Council of the Associated Students of UM, will encompass an explanation of the priest's advocacy of nonviolent confrontation in America.

Father Groppi has been involved in social action projects in support of the rights of the black and the poor. Since 1965, he has been arrested 12 times for participation in civil rights activities and social action. He now serves as a member of the pastoral team at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Milwaukee.

During the summers of 1964 and 1965, Father Groppi worked on voter registration projects in Alabama and Mississippi. He was elected second vice president of the Milwaukee United School Integration Committee and he was arrested for the first time in a demonstration on the school integration issue.

He served with the Milwaukee NAACP Youth Council and led demonstrations protesting membership of public officials in ^{the} segregated Eagle's Club ^{there} in the summer of 1966. He also led demonstrations for ^{an} open housing ordinance in Milwaukee during the summer and fall of 1967.

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A law covering 100 per cent of the housing in Milwaukee was passed in 1968.

Father Groppi supported workers from local laundries in their demands for better wages and improved working conditions. In one of these cases, the workers' demands were met by the company after just one day of picketing. He led demonstrations in Madison, the state capital, for restoration of welfare cuts in the fall of 1969.

Father Groppi, who attended St. Lawrence Seminary, Mt. Calvary, Wis., and St. Francis Seminary, Milwaukee, was ordained in June 1959.

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