

4 1/2 Million Dollar Project

# Plans Announced For New Ten-Story St. Ann's Home

## THE CATHOLIC *Courier Journal* OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

65,835

LAST WEEK'S

PAID

CIRCULATION

70th Year

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1959

PRICE 10c

## October Groundbreaking, Completion Set For 1961

St. Ann's Home for the Aged will move into its new four-and-a-half million dollar, ten-story building in August, 1961, according to plans announced today by the Board of Trustees of St. Ann's Home.

Groundbreaking for the new structure is tentatively set for October of this year.

Robert Hall of the architectural firm of Barrows, Parks, Morin, Hall and Brennan, designed the building. A full color reproduction of an artist's drawing of the proposed new St. Ann's is shown below on this page.

The new St. Ann's will be located on a 23 acre site on Portland Avenue, Irondequoit, between Norton St. and Ridge Rd. East, just opposite Northside Hospital.

It will replace the 53-year old quarters on Lake Avenue purchased in May, 1958, by the Eastman Kodak Company.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Arthur E. Ratigan, diocesan director of Catholic Charities, said the new St. Ann's will have a capacity for 354 guests, 128 more than the present Lake Avenue home.

He also stated there will be no fund-raising to erect the new building. Costs will be met, he said, through sale price of the present St. Ann's, through bequests made to the Home and by the Home assuming a debt of an estimated \$1,000,000.

St. Ann's is staffed by 18 Sisters of St. Joseph and 90 full time lay employees. The new St. Ann's, with over 100 more guests will, of course, require a larger staff. Sister M. Thomasina is administrator.

Features of the new ten-story structure, one of the largest buildings of its type ever planned, include 322 private rooms, 18-rooms for couples, 2 lounges and 2 sun decks on each floor, a small dining room on each floor and a large central dining room.

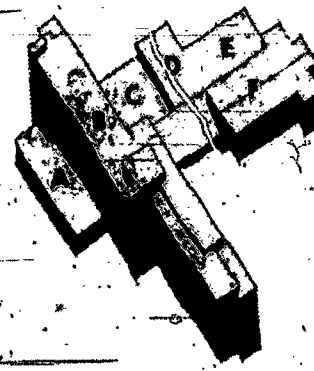
The chapel is designed to be a separate unit in front of the new St. Ann's but connected with the home by a corridor to give the impression of "going out to church."

The chapel will have an area especially designed for wheelchair guests and all pews in the chapel are planned specifically for the use of the aged, to accommodate two, three, or at most four people to facilitate getting in and out.

One side of the corridor to the chapel will be lined with "quiet activities" rooms—a library, a meeting room, music room and chaplain's quarters.

Nuns who staff the new St. Ann's will have their convent quarters and chapel on the main building's tenth floor.

The new St. Ann's medical section will include x-ray and dental suites, diagnostic facilities, psychiatrist's office, two consultation rooms, two treat-



Sister M. Thomasina, administrator of the diocesan Home for the Aged.

ment rooms, hydrotherapy booths, Hubbard tank room, three thermotherapy booths and full physical therapy and treatment facilities.

There will also be a laboratory, pharmacy, medical library and central sterile supply.

The main floor will contain the principal dining room, recreation room, staff cafeteria, kitchen, barber shop, beauty shop, occupational therapy room, storage and general service rooms.

The main dining room is to be subdivided into small areas for the use of not more than 28 guests and not more than 4 at a table. Waitresses will serve the meals. The decor will equal that of a first class hotel. Tables will have table cloths and the floor will be carpeted.

Monsignor Ratigan pointed out that the architect kept in mind the "dignity and individuality" of the aged guests, their desire for "privacy and personal

friendships" in designing details of the new St. Ann's.

The trunk storage area has also been arranged according to this idea. The storage area will be near the dining room and trunks will be stored so guests can get to them for "treasured possessions" at will.

A recreation room will double as an auditorium but space dividers will permit smaller groups to enjoy privacy at games or special programs.

Guests will also be able to do their own laundry if they choose in a main floor room to be equipped with domestic size washers and dryers.

There will also be two small stores where clothing or other items donated to the home will be sold.

Monsignor Ratigan explained that the object will not be to make money but to provide guests with the opportunity to "shop" for what they want and have the idea they "bought" it rather than received it "as charity."

Around-the-clock nursing care (Continued on Page 2)

## Court Upholds School Bus Plea

Albany — The Albany County Supreme Court has upheld parents who appealed for bus transportation for their children to attend parochial schools.

The children were denied the bus rides by voters in 1958 of the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake school district in Saratoga and Schenectady counties.

Dr. James A. Allen, state commissioner of education, directed the district to provide the requested transportation as specified by New York law.

The school district initiated court action to upset the commissioner's ruling.

Justice Roscoe V. Elsworth heard the case in the Albany Supreme Court March 30 of this year, reserved his decision at that time and announced on July 16 his approval of the commissioner's ruling.

THE CASE IS likely to be appealed ultimately to the U.S. Supreme Court.

N.C.W.C. News Service said the case involves 65 pupils currently enrolled at St. Joseph's school, Scotia, a suburb of Schenectady, and 3 at St. Joseph's Academy, Schenectady.

Justice Elsworth held that the position taken by the commissioner is "entirely correct." The jurist said that "multi-bus attack" made by the board against the commissioner's orders "does violence to the plain meaning of the statute; is not dictated by reason or logic, and is not sustained by precedent or construction of the statute."

THE JUDGE recalled that at a general election in 1938 the voters of New York State approved a constitutional amendment which authorized the State Legislature to provide transportation for all children to and from any school in the state.

"Therefore, the people of the State of New York have determined that the use of public funds for transportation to non-public schools is a constitutional expenditure," Justice Elsworth declared.

## Bible Isn't Cultural

New York — (RNS) — A Russian guide at the Soviet exhibition of science, technology and culture here was caught off guard by this question — put to him by a visiting Miami Beach rabbi: "Can you show me the latest edition of the Bible published in Soviet Russia?"

The guard after a moment's hesitation, replied, "Look around and you will find one." But when Rabbi Elmer H. Stern patiently explained that he already had looked and could not find one, the guide admitted that "the Russian government does not feel the Bible is connected with the cultural development of the nation."

## See Inside

### Jehovah's Witnesses

A denomination or a disease?

### Pitfalls Of Piety

Problems of glib Catholics

Both articles on page 4



Monsignor Ratigan, Robert Hall and Sister M. Annette survey architect's plans of new St. Ann's Home.

## Secret Weapon

### Prayers Asked For Captives

New York — (RNS) — Roman Catholic Auxiliary Bishop James H. Griffiths of New York, answering Nikita S. Khrushchev's recent jibe at religion, declared

here that the Soviet Premier may have learned some lessons from Lalka and from Spitznack I to IV, "but obviously he does not know about the real top secret weapon in the hands of the free."

"That secret weapon is prayer," the prelate said. "The remarkable thing about it is the fact that neither Mr. Khrushchev nor his intelligence groups will ever be able to penetrate it or steal it or crack its code as long as they know not God."

Bishop Griffiths spoke at a solemn Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral for the opening of Captive Nations Week. Proclaimed by President Eisenhower and observed in Protestant and Catholic churches and synagogues throughout the country.

Bishop Griffiths noted that prayers were being offered for the 85,000,000 men, women and children of nine nations, "which in the relatively short space of 20 years have been reduced from the status of sovereign and independent states to the degraded position of enslaved colonies of the Kremlin."

## Bishop's Mass For 'Invaders'

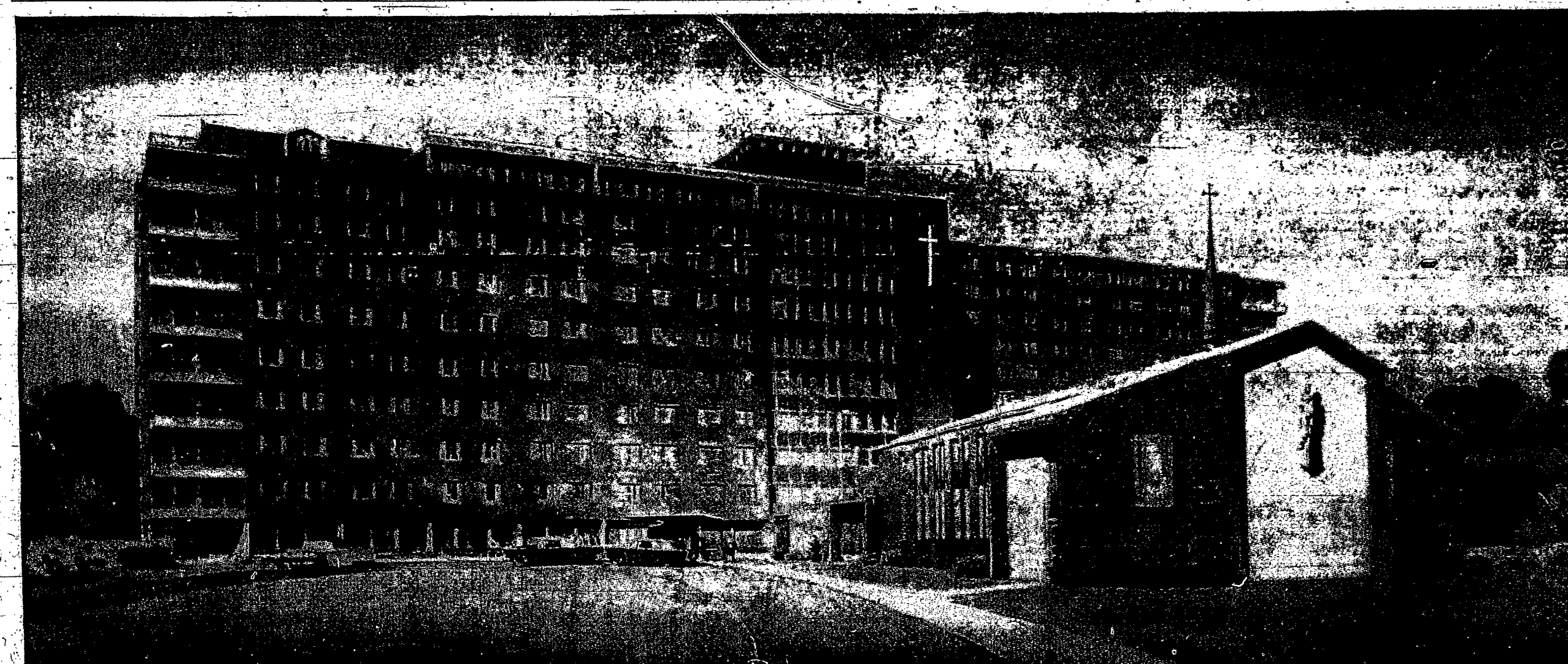
Bishop Kearney will celebrate Mass Sunday morning at 10:30 on the lawn of St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Irondequoit, for sailors and Marines taking part in "Operation Inland Seas."

The Bishop will also give the sermon.

Monsignor Richard K. Barks, pastor, has arranged for buses to bring the young men to the Mass and has asked parishioners to make their guests in their homes for Sunday dinner.

Other Masses will be celebrated by Navy chaplains aboard ships which will be anchored off the port of Rochester.

A full scale amphibious operation will be staged by 4,500 sailors and Marines at the city's Ontario Beach Park tomorrow, Saturday, starting at 12:45 noon.



Drawing by artist John C. Wenrich shows proposed new St. Ann's Home.