

Class Size Cut, Laid as Aides

Fewer pupils in classrooms and more lay people to help in school activities will soon characterize parochial schools of the Rochester Diocese. Father William Roche, diocesan superintendent of schools, made the announcement in a letter to pastors this week.

He said Bishop Kearney has directed that the new regulations go into effect some this year, others next year.

Purpose of the arrangement, Father Roche stated, is to conserve the health and well-being of the teaching staff and for the benefit of both teachers and students.

THIS YEAR, each principal is to enlist the help of competent teacher aides from women of the parish for duties to be spelled out by Father Roche's office. Furthermore, teachers are not to have responsibilities during their lunch period.

Next year, classrooms in grades 3 through 8 are to have a limit of 30 pupils (present limit is 35). Schools with an

enrollment of over 400 pupils are to have a full-time secretary, less than 500 pupils, a part-time secretary.

Another recently announced ruling said no new parochial schools will be started in the diocese in the "immediate future" because of a continuing "critical" shortage of teachers.

Father Roche said the smaller classes and help from aides will "keep the work load of teachers within reasonable limits." He said increased demands of new subjects and new methods require teachers to spend more time in preparation, "... much more than ten years ago."

He also suggested formation of a Home-School Association limit is 35). Schools with an



New Perpetual Help School

Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish will replace its sixty year old school with an all-new structure as shown in architect's drawing. Monsignor Frank J. Hoefen, pastor, will explain details of building project to parishioners at Mass this Sunday. The parish school has a current enrollment of over 400 pupils. Architects of new school are Ploch and Mellen.

Bishop Casey to Bless Expectant Mothers

Sacred Heart Cathedral Rosary Guild will resume activities on Monday, Sept. 9, with Rosary and Benediction at 7:45 p.m. Auxiliary Bishop Casey will bestow the Church's blessing on expectant mothers from the parishes of Monroe County. Each will receive a medal of St. Gerard.

Afterward, in the school hall, Rev. Edward Zimmer will show colored slides in a talk about the death and burial of Pope John. Father Zimmer attended the Pope's funeral in Rome.

Women who come from other parishes for the expectant mothers' blessing rite are invited to attend the Guild meeting and showing of the pictures.

Monday's meeting will open the annual two-week membership campaign, of which Mrs. Ronald J. McDonald again is chairman.

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NCTC Convention

Blackfriars Take National Award

Miami Beach—(NC)—Blackfriars, Rochester theater group, received the Alfred E. Horn and the National Catholic Theatre Conference for this year's production of "The Merchant of Venice" at the National Catholic Theatre Conference in Miami Beach.

Beginning its 12th season in the Rochester area, Blackfriars has offered a wide variety of theatre fare from modern drama of Saroyan, Barry and others to the classics of great writers like Shakespeare, Moliere and Fry.

According to Smett, the award will enable the group to expand its project of travelling classical in our community's cultural life.

He added that "we can only thank the VanHorn Company for the award." The National Catholic Theatre Conference for this year's production of "The Merchant of Venice" at the National Catholic Theatre Conference in Miami Beach.

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'63 Vacation Schools Draw 5,665

A total of 5,665 children attended religious vacation schools in the Diocese of Rochester this year, according to Rev. Albert H. Schnack, Diocesan Director of the Center for Christian Doctrine. This is an increase of 284 over last year.

Following are the parishes and the number of children attending religious vacation schools in 1963:

Parish	Number of Children
Rochester	100
Sacred Heart	85
Corpus Christi	80
Holy Apostles	75
St. Augustine	70
St. Richard	65
St. Francis Assisi	60
St. Patrick	55
St. John	50
St. Joseph	45
St. Mary	40
St. Michael	35
St. Raphael	30
St. Vincent	25
St. Elizabeth	20
St. Ann	15
St. Clare	10
St. Theresa	5
St. Agnes	5
St. Cecilia	5
St. Gertrude	5
St. Ignace	5
St. Joseph	5
St. Lawrence	5
St. Martin	5
St. Nicholas	5
St. Peter	5
St. Rose	5
St. Thome	5
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