

Progress for Souls

REV. PAUL J. GIRMONE

Conscious that the spiritual progress of the seminarian is both for his own benefit and for the benefit of those to whom he will minister in Christ's name, Saint Andrew's Seminary seeks to develop in its students a genuine Christ-centered interior life.

This program is administered by Monsignor Richard Quinn, the Rector, and Father Louis Hohman, Spiritual Moderator.

The seminary schedule affords the young men seeking the priesthood an opportunity to attain spiritual maturity by personal devotions, by participation in the liturgy and by the practical exercise of charity through various projects sponsored during the school year.

The daily rule of the seminary is the first means presented to the students as a way to spiritual perfection. He is required to be faithful to morning and evening prayers, meditation, Holy Mass, Communion, visiting the Blessed Sacrament and recitation of the Rosary. Practically all the seminarians add the Stations of the Cross to their daily practices. Weekly reception of the Sacrament of Penance enables them to receive personal advice from their confessor.

In addition, Father Hohman is available for consultation and advice on particular problems. Another source of help and inspiration is to be found in the many books on the spiritual life in the seminary library.

The seminary is filled with a deep sense of the value of corporate divine worship, first through instructions on the liturgy and then through frequent participation in the liturgy itself. Each Sunday and holiday Monsignor Quinn celebrates Sung Mass and delivers a homily on the Gospel.

Frequently Bishop Kearney offers Mass at the seminary and in other city churches and convents and on these occasions the students of St. Andrew's assist him in the ceremonial and choral parts of the Mass.

To familiarize the seminarians with other Rites than the Roman, Saint Andrew's sponsors an annual Oriental Day when one of the Eastern Rite liturgies is explained and celebrated for their benefit.

The annual fall retreat is one of the spiritual highlights of the year. Conducted by separate retreat masters for the college and high school departments it gives the seminarians an unusual opportunity to talk with priests especially skilled in the guidance of the soul.

Each month various diocesan priests conduct the Day of Recollection. Weekly conferences by Father Hohman, a course of Lenten sermons by priests of the faculty and frequent talks by Missionary priests are further sources of spiritual help.

The seminary at St. Andrew's has many opportunities to manifest its growth in charity by actual exercise and practice. Through the Vocation Club he prepares himself to go out to the schools to give talks on the seminary life. He prepares the exhibit on the Priesthood which is one of the biggest attractions of the Seminary Open House Sunday.

Through the Mission Society he makes the fruits of his spiritual and material sacrifices available for the world-wide propagation of the faith.

When the appeal for blood donors is made the students of St. Andrew's turn out in large numbers to perform this corporal work of mercy.

During the holiday season members of St. Andrew's Choir gladden the hearts of the sick and aged by their reverent rendition of sacred music.

This beginning of spiritual formation which takes place at St. Andrew's on the personal, corporate and practical levels has ever been recognized as an essential work of the preparatory seminary in the church, a work to which the late Pope Pius XII referred when he said in September 1957 to a large group of minor seminarians:

"If minor seminaries are so useful and beneficial, it is because their institution is based on a precise knowledge of the needs of adolescent and Christian youth. Families can therefore rely on the wisdom of the church to judge one's attitude for the priesthood and the means best suited to prepare for it."

Seminary Priest Authors

The articles about St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's on these pages were written by seminary faculty members — Father Joseph Hogan, dogma professor at St. Bernard's; Father Robert McNamara, church history; Father Charles Curran, moral law and canon law; Father Joseph Lynch, science professor at St. Andrew's; Father Paul Gibbons, Latin; and Father Raymond Moore, business manager for both seminaries.

College, Theology Studies at St. Bernard's Seminary

By REV. JOSEPH J. HOGAN

A student spends six years at St. Bernard's Seminary — completing his studies and total preparation for the diocesan priesthood. The course of study encompasses the final two years of the liberal arts in college and a four-year course in theology.

In 1951 the original act of incorporation of St. Bernard's was amended by action of the New York State Legislature incorporating "St. Bernard's Seminary and College" (its proper legal title) as an institution for the higher education of young men in the liberal and fine arts, philosophy and theology. Since that date the course of studies has been registered with the New York State Department of Education and the Seminary has been authorized to confer the degree of Bachelor of Arts upon those students who have satisfactorily completed the liberal arts or college course.

The College course is designed to offer the student a sufficiently broad education to enable him to obtain an adequate preparation for the study of theology, and at the same time

to equip him with an undergraduate preparation in several fields of the liberal arts. It is hoped that through this broad preparation the student will be prepared to do graduate work in another field of his choice. Should he eventually decide that the priesthood is not his vocation, this point cannot be overemphasized.

The whole educational program of the Seminary is geared primarily to the diocesan priesthood. Therefore, admission to the Seminary is restricted to students who are sincerely desirous of preparing themselves for the priesthood — those honestly feel that they have such a vocation in life.

Since since the Seminary is a training ground for his vocation, many students come to the Seminary who have not been given to them. The course of studies offered is therefore, one which proves not only to those who reach such a decision. Many of the graduates of the college section at St. Bernard's have distinguished themselves in business or in the legal, medical, and teaching professions.

The field of concentration in the two years of college offer-

ed at St. Bernard's is the scientific study of Theology, Philosophy and a general history of Philosophy. Other courses include:

- Education: Philosophy and Psychology of Education, Special Methods of Religious Education, and School Administration.

- English: A Study of Medieval Literature, XVIII Century English Literature, Victorian Prose, Modern Catholic Writers and Literary Criticism.

- Scriptures: A History of Old and New Testament Times.

- Biblical Languages: New Testament Greek and An Introduction to Hebrew.

- Sociology (A Study of the Social Encyclopedia), Church History, Public Speaking, and Church Music.

The four years of theology constitute the immediate preparation for the priesthood. For admission into the Department of Theology a student must have completed two years of scholastic philosophy in a major seminary or in a college where such course is provided. As in the college department, no student is admitted to the

Theology Department without being admitted to his major course. The student must have completed the college course in Philosophy.

The concentration of studies in the various branches of Theology (Theological or Dogmatic, Moral, Ascetical, and Pastoral), Sacred Scripture, Canon Law, and Church History, during the theology course includes, in practice, the giving of the homily and the teaching of catechism and in the teaching of religion.

All students of theology teach each week in the released time classes of religion for public high school students of the city of Rochester. A special course in the method of religious education is now being given each week at the Seminary by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart who are specialists in catechetical work.

Special classes in social science are provided by the staff members of the Catholic Family Center for the students of the fourth year of theology. The curriculum also includes: Literary, Gregorian Chant, Elocution (the study of the writings of the Fathers of the Church), and Pastoral Accounting.

The present curriculum at St.

Bernard's Seminary has received its direction and sanction from the diocesan bishop, Bishop Bernard J. Schmitt, of Rochester, and the approval of the Vatican Congregation of Seminaries and Education, present day needs of the Church and regulations of the New York State Department of Education.

In 1951 St. Bernard's received from Rome the privilege of granting ecclesiastical degrees and admitted its first students in June 1951 when one student received the degree of Bachelor of Theology (S.T.B.) and four received the Bachelor of Philosophy (B.Ph.). In May of the same year it awarded its first Doctorate in Theology (S.T.D.).

This privilege was absorbed in 1951 by a papal constitution which raised the requirements for granting degrees. The new constitution requires that special buildings be erected and separate faculties be established for the graduate studies leading to the degree. This became a financial impossibility for St. Bernard's and for many other seminaries. Some American seminaries have closed as a result.

master's degree in religious education. These schools are usually affiliated with a university.

In keeping with the tradition of high standards and constant improvement set by its founder, Bishop Bernard J. Schmitt, St. Bernard's has begun a system of self-evaluation in preparation for accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

This program involves a minimum of two years work and an official visitation of the seminary by a team of educational experts appointed by the accrediting association. This will mark the beginning of a regular program which aims at continuous appraisal of the seminary curriculum and facilities — 12 years of training including 4 years of high school, 4 years of college, and 4 years of theology.

St. Bernard's publishes every two years a catalogue of its College and Theology programs. Students interested may receive a copy of this catalogue by addressing their request to The Office of the Prefect of Studies, St. Bernard's Seminary, 2300 Lake Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. 14612.

High School, Jr. College At St. Andrew's Seminary

REV. JOSEPH LYNCH

St. Andrew's Seminary is designed and founded by Bishop McQuaid many years ago, and as guided by his successors in the See of Rochester, has maintained a single primary purpose — the "remote" preparation of young men for the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

The path of preparation is long and sometimes difficult, beginning during the six years of the program of this Minor Seminary and continuing for six years of work at the Major Seminary, St. Bernard's.

The goal of the priesthood, though comparatively remote to the students at St. Andrew's, is never far removed from the thoughts of their teachers or of themselves. This priesthood is the focal point of their lives and the final standard against which their work and its success must be measured.

The role of the priest, while it is always essentially the same, varies according to the age and culture in which it is to be exercised.

"Every high priest," said St. Paul, "taken from among men is ordained for men in the things that appertain to God." As the men from among whom he is taken and for whom he is ordained are products of their generation, so the priest must be prepared to live and to work in the world of his own time. He is to be truly "in" the world though never "of" it.

The program of the Minor Seminary, while it must be concerned with the development of "another Christ," must be concerned as well with the development of the full potential of the man who will live and exercise his priesthood in the world of tomorrow. St. Andrew's Seminary, with the guidance of its bishops, faculty members and students, has sought to keep pace with the modern world.

The prayerful and material support of the Catholics of the Diocese of Rochester has made this possible. The Seminary stands today with its beautiful campus and modern building as a tribute to that interest. Its students go out prepared to meet the men of their own generation on at least equal terms of educational background.

St. Andrew's Seminary is organized according to the requirements of the New York

State Board of Regents. Its total of 18 units, and must be four year high school course, leads to the State Regents Diploma in two years of college preparation. After two additional years in the Major Seminary, leads to the Bachelor of Arts degree. The high school department accepts students who have achieved satisfactory standing in the "Scholastic High School Placement Test."

In addition to academic preparation, an applicant must have expressed the desire to study for the priesthood; he must also enjoy a good reputation in his neighborhood and must have the recommendation of the pastor of his parish.

Once accepted the young man enters upon an academic career of the highest caliber. He will take classes for four years each in religion, English and Latin in three years in science (general science, biology and physics), mathematics and social studies and two years in a modern language. During those years he will be influenced spiritually and intellectually by teachers who have been prepared to meet only by their own years in the seminary but also by the hours of study required to attain the Master's Degree in their particular field.

Since the course of studies is organized according to the State's plan, young men who decide to enter the seminary after one or more years in another high school may readily do so without academic loss provided they have pursued a comparable program. Toward the end of their high school course, the student receives the opportunity to compete with students of other high schools throughout the State and nation for New York State Regents Scholarships and National Merit Scholarships. Last year 88% of the graduating class received Regents Scholarships and one was a finalist in the National Merit competition.

After the successful completion of his high school course, the seminary enters the College Department. Here he will be joined by graduates of other high schools — men of the Rochester diocese who have only now decided to undertake preparation for the priesthood and men from other dioceses which do not have a minor seminary. To be accepted at this level a student must have been awarded a New York State Regents High School Diploma with

distinction in Latin. To those lacking such preparation, St. Andrew's offers a special program designed to equip them for their college studies. The college curriculum is designed to offer the student a general liberal arts education sufficiently broad to prepare him adequately for the study of Theology and at the same time to equip him with an undergraduate preparation in several fields of the liberal arts. It is hoped that he will thus be prepared also to undertake graduate studies in another field of his choice if he should later decide to do so.

The candidate takes the first two years of this program at St. Andrew's Seminary. Here the emphasis is on Latin and Greek. In two years the student is enabled to receive 20 semester hours of credit in the foreign language and 12 in the latter. In the same time he acquires 12 hours in English, 12 in science (biology, chemistry or astronomy) or mathematics, and 8 in history. At the conclusion of his first two years at St. Andrew's the student will have acquired 70 credit hours towards the 130 required for the Bachelor's Degree.

At the Major Seminary, during the next two years, stress is on philosophy with 32 credit hours in philosophy, English, sociology, history, etc. Further credits are obtained in history, English, sociology, Education, etc.

In its scholastic efforts St. Andrew's has kept pace with the best of the modern world. Recent years have seen an expansion and modernization of its offerings in the fields of mathematics and the natural sciences. Adequate introductory training in these fields is recognized as essential to the truly liberal education of the man who is to exercise his ministry in the twentieth century.

At the same time the seminary cannot neglect the traditional emphasis upon the humanities, nor can it ignore recent discoveries, changing attitudes and newer techniques. The need to keep pace puts a great burden on every school system, every school and every teacher. St. Andrew's has met and is meeting the challenge through the interest and foresight of Bishop Kearney who, in spite of other needs, has freed its faculty from parochial duties so that they may dedicate themselves completely to the young man finds that he is indeed, trained in an education that is not only dedicated to the future but also to the present. Some are athletic and the students are encouraged to engage in the extensive intramural sports program.

During the fall and spring the campus provides an athletic field for baseball and track, as well as courts for tennis and handball. During the long winter months skating and hockey prevail out of doors. But most of the activity moves indoors when the students become interested in ping-pong and enthusiastic about basketball. The latter becomes something of a major sport when the fully contested intramural competition is supplemented by games with other schools of the area. The rivalry which generates the most interest is the traditional one with the minor seminary of Buffalo.

Extra-curricular enthusiasm is not reserved for sports. The debating team represents the school in inter-collegiate competition with marked success. Its counterpart at the high school level is equally successful.

Within the school there exists a wide variety of societies wherein the student may develop his initiative and pursue his individual interests. Science, language, dramatic and chess clubs provide such opportunities. Students who are interested participate in science fairs or in the preparation of the school's annual Latin exhibit which draws teachers and students from many schools.

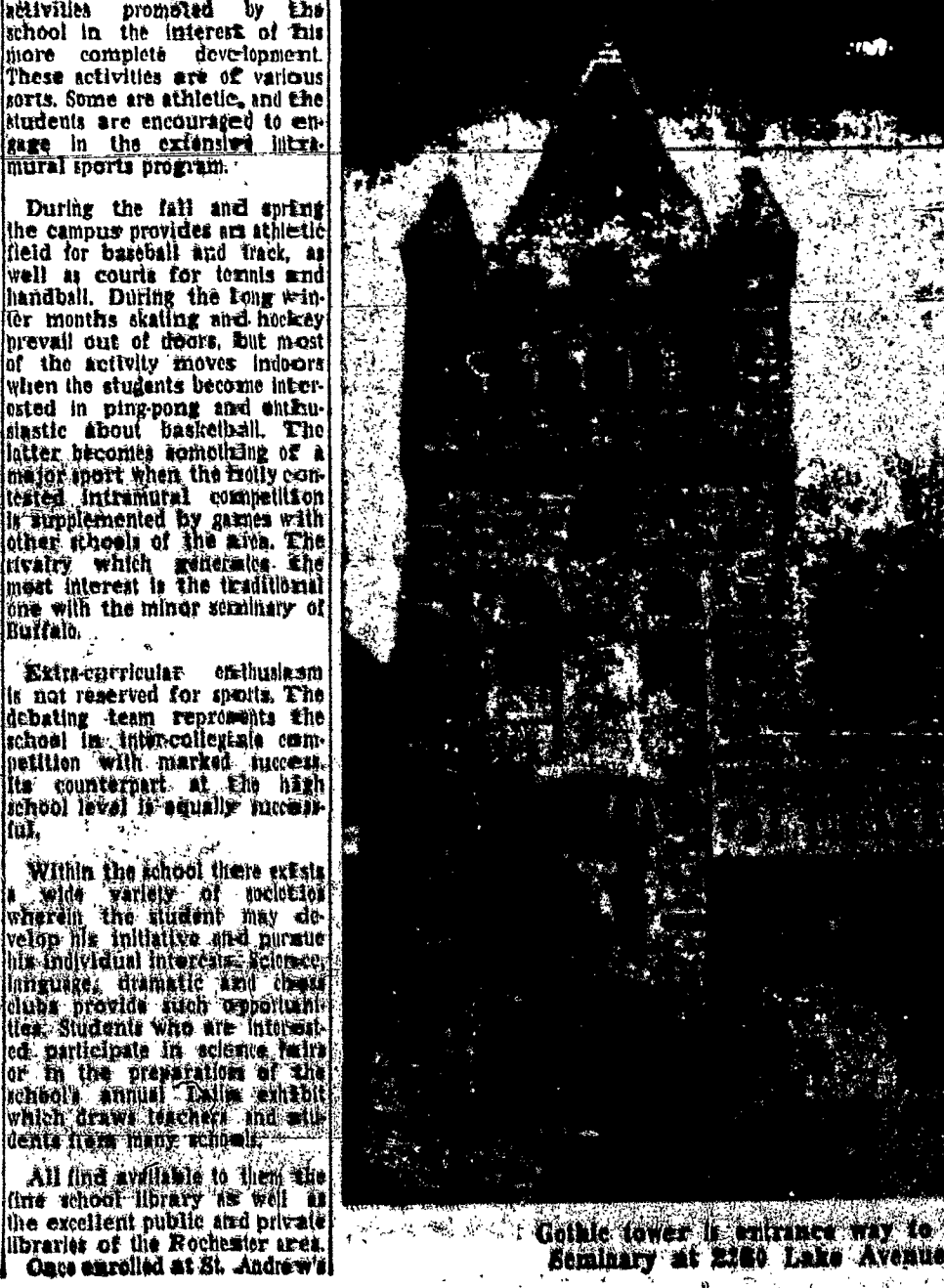
All find available to them the fine school library as well as the excellent public and private libraries of the Rochester area. Once enrolled at St. Andrew's



You will be welcomed to St. Bernard's Seminary Open House this Sunday afternoon by Father Joseph Hogan and other faculty members at the Lake Avenue School.

When at last he will step forth to be ordained "another Christ," he will do so with confidence and joy.

Photos of both Seminaries by Chuck Mantiello



Gothic tower is entrance way to St. Bernard's Seminary at 2300 Lake Avenue, Rochester.



Father Joseph Lynch finds his science lessons are enjoyed as well as learned