

# Layman Named VP At Notre Dame

The Sisters of Mercy have appointed a layman to a key administrative position in one of their high schools. Mother Mary Bride, mother general of the community, has announced the appointment of Warren Tessler as vice-principal of Notre Dame High School in Elmira. He is the first layman to hold such a post in the Diocese.

Notre Dame, a coeducational institution which enrolls close to 800 students from the Elmira area, has a staff of 25 Sisters of Mercy, one priest (Rev. Joseph F. Reinhart, chaplain), and 13 laymen and women.

Tessler, who has been teaching at Notre Dame for the past two years, will assist Sister Mary Declan, principal, in an administrative capacity, and will serve as director of discipline and chairman of the faculty committee on discipline. He will continue to coach varsity baseball and junior varsity football.

A native of Plattsburgh, Tessler is the son of Mrs. Louis Tessler of Staunton, Va. and the late Mr. Tessler.

He received a bachelor of science degree in math from St. Michael's College, Winoski, Vt., and is currently studying for his master's degree in education at Elmira College.

Tessler, who attended college on a basketball scholarship, played varsity basketball for three years,

also working for the athletic department. He played with a professional team for three years after college. He taught algebra, business math and health for one year at St. Mary's Academy, Champlain, as well as being athletic director.

Tessler has taught algebra, biology and life science at Notre Dame for the past two years. He was also varsity baseball coach and junior varsity basketball and football coach.

He served six months in the Army, and is married to the former Barbara Ann Kozdomba of Elmira. The couple has two daughters, Michele Anne and Lynn Marie.

Sister M. Declan, in commenting on the hiring of a lay vice-principal, said:

"It is with great pride that Notre Dame High School announces the appointment of Warren Tessler as vice-principal. Our staff includes 13 lay men and women who share equally with the Sisters in the teaching, duties and responsibilities of curriculum development.

"Catholic educational circles have long urged that greater responsibility be given to qualified Catholic laymen. Not content with giving lip-service to this ideal, Notre Dame has realized an early ambition of sharing administrative duties with its loyal lay staff."



WARREN TESSLER  
Diocesan First

# The Catholic COURIER

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Carl Denninger family welcomes Mrs. Francis Donovan who heads the Family Life Committee at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

## Cathedral Family Life Group 11,232 Visits In 10 Years

A little publicized person-to-person project marked its tenth anniversary at Sacred Heart Cathedral this summer, and people and parish are believed to be far stronger spiritually because of it.

The project is the Family Life Committee — 55 women headed by Mrs. Francis X. Donovan of 86 Clay Ave. — who aid parents of new babies in the spiritual growth of the youngsters.

For some couples it is evidence they never thought existed that "the Church is really interested in our family."

How does the project operate? Bishop Casey, Cathedral rector, explained it this way in his parish bulletin:

"When an infant is baptized in the Cathedral, the mother is given to a committee member. When the baby is three months old, the worker gives the mother a folder and into this folder there is inserted every three months a pamphlet appropriate for a baby of a given age. The initial brochure is called 'Thoughts for Christian Parents' and the title varies as the baby grows.

"The visits terminate when the child is three years old when a booklet entitled 'Religion in the Home' is given to the parents. It contains twelve chapters, each reflecting a month of the year, and designed to assist mothers and fathers in the pre-school guidance of their children."

Are the booklets read? ONE COUPLE interviewed emphatically affirmed yes.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Denninger of 238 Alameda St. have been on both sides of the project — parents of six children since it was begun ten years ago (they already had two children before that) and with Mrs. Denninger as a pioneer member of the committee.

Her husband said, "Dottie has read all the booklets religiously. I read them quite faithfully too — especially when she pointed out some items she thought I needed to improve a bit on."

Both Mrs. Donovan and Mrs. Denninger said younger mothers were "most appreciative" of the calls made by committee members. "And many lasting friendships have been formed through these calls too," they added.

Bishop Casey began the program when he was pastor of Holy Cross Church where it is still in operation and then launched it at the Cathedral. Other parishes have indicated they may also inaugurate it, Mrs. Donovan said.

She tallied up the total of visits made to date for her report to Bishop Casey and came to these remarkable figures: 11,232 home visits have been made.

2,462 babies have been spiritually enriched by the program which, besides the visits and booklets, includes the daily prayers of each committee member.

790 children, now three years of age or more have "graduated" from the program and are now either in school or soon to enter it.



## New School in Town of Greece

Father John Murphy turns the sod at St. Lawrence parish, Greece, to begin construction of an eight room, \$292,000 school. Rite was held Monday evening, feast of St. Lawrence. Father Thomas O'Brien and Father Gerald Krieg, nuns who staff the school now housed in the parish hall and members of the young parish attended the ceremony.

## Elmira K of C Team Shines In State Meet

The Elmira K of C Track Club team, fresh from a hard earned fifth place tie in the State Meet, hopes to better its third place 1963 finish in the annual Niagara District AAU Meet, Saturday, Aug. 15 at Buffalo.

Coach Glenn Mallette was especially happy about the team's showing in the State Meet at Elmira, August 1.

The Elmira runners captured four thirds and a fourth in tying the Grand Street Boys for fifth place behind the Long Island Striders, Gardentown of Buffalo, the Rochester Track Club and the New York Athletic Club.

Ron Grier led the way with third place finishes in both the broad and triple jumps. The fabulous Charlie Mays won both events.

Gary Pace finished strong to take third place at the wire in the Chuck Maston Memorial 880 Run.

Gary Purdue was third in the William C. Emerson Memorial 1-Mile Walk.

Bob Smith flew home fourth in the 120-yard high hurdles, an event replacing the 220 low hurdles this year due to the re-sodding of the gridiron.

## New Chairman Appointed For Elmira K of C

Mathias F. Fennell of 186 Bower Road has been appointed Six-Point Program Chairman of Elmira Council 229 by Incoming Council Grand Knight Edward A. Claus.

Fennell will coordinate the work of the Council's six main committees—Catholic Activities; Council Activities; Fraternal Activities; Membership; Public Relations; and Youth Activities. The chairman of these committees will be announced soon.

Fennell is a past grand knight of Elmira Council and is the current president of Columbus Center Inc., the home association for the Council.

In addition, the new six-point program chairman is a former vice-chairman for youth activities on the New York State Council, Knights of Columbus.

The announcement of Fennell's appointment was made by Grand Knight Claus at the Council's monthly meeting, Wednesday night, Aug. 5 at Columbus Center.

In other action, Grand Knight Claus announced that the Council's 67th Annual Outing would be held Sunday, Sept. 20 at the Coldbrook Club.

Cornelius L. Sullivan was named outgoing general chairman and revealed plans for his formation of the outing ticket committee.

The next regular council meeting will be held Wednesday night, Sept. 2 at 8 at Columbus Center.

## 25 Years Ago

(From the files of Catholic Courier, August 17, 1939)

A primary department including preschool and first grade for children, three to seven, was to be opened on Lomb property, Jefferson Road, Itford under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Rev. George J. Welsborn, S.S.C., a native of Rochester who returned from Holland after ordination in the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary was to celebrate his first Solemn Mass in Corpus Christi Church.

Merger of The Echo, independent Catholic weekly newspaper with the Catholic Union and Times, diocesan paper of the Diocese of Buffalo was announced. The Echo conducted a Rochester edition for about 14 years, beginning in 1920.

## Catholic Info Booth Set At County Fair

"Christian Unity Through Catholic Action" is the theme chosen by the Legion of Mary for the Catholic Information exhibit at the Monroe County Fairgrounds.

Emphasis will be placed on the charity of Christ practiced so that it may be recognized as a characteristic of the Church and of the parish.

Colored slides will be shown of the Legion of Mary in their active work and of various other volunteer work engaged in by Catholics throughout the diocese. Information on the purpose and requirements of all Catholic volunteer organizations will also be available.

Another interesting feature of the exhibit will be a short program entitled "St. Mary's is Your Hospital". Here will be shown how the combined skills and endeavors of the professional and dedicated staff of workers closely united with the volunteer workers form an excellent example of Christian love.

Legionnaires will endeavor to show that Christian Charity must not be a theory to be read about in books, but rather an honest effort on the part of every Catholic to put into effect the meaning behind the words "Christian Unity Through Catholic Action". The words of Our Divine Lord will then take on new meaning for every Catholic. "Other sheep I have who are not of this fold, them also I must bring and they shall hear My voice and there shall be one fold and one shepherd."

Visitors are welcome at the Legion of Mary exhibit from Monday, Aug. 17 through Saturday, Aug. 22. The exhibit will be shown from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Alfred DiPasquale, president of the newly formed Rochester Curia of the Legion of Mary and Mrs. Mary Schell are Co-Chairmen.

Edward Adams is president of the Rochester Curia of the Legion of Mary. Rev. James Marvan is spiritual director of the Rochester Curia and Rev. Elmer McDonald is spiritual director of the Rochester Curia of the Legion of Mary.



FATHER THEOPHANE

## Fr. Theophane Reassigned To Graymoor

Montour Falls—Father Theophane Murphy, S.A. of St. John's Atonement Seminary, Montour Falls has received assignment from his Father General to become Rector and Master of Clerics of St. Pius X Seminary Graymoor, Garrison, N.Y.

Father Theophane Murphy, S.A. came to St. John's Atonement Seminary five years ago as Rector. During his stay in the diocese he has started the Vocation Retreats for grammar school boys "to place the seed of a vocation in the hearts and minds of the boys of the Rochester diocese." These vocation retreats were run jointly for the religious orders and for the diocese of Rochester.

Father Theophane has conducted many retreats for nurses and for other special groups in the diocese.

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