

St. Stanislaus Parish Marks 75th Anniversary

St. Stanislaus Parish of Rochester will celebrate its Diamond Jubilee on Sunday, Nov. 7, with a Solemn High Mass at 5 p.m. Bishop Kearney will deliver the sermon. At 7 p.m. there will be a banquet in the parish auditorium.

It was more than 75 years ago that Rev. Fridolin Paschal of St. Michael's Church on Clinton Avenue suggested the organization of a parish to be devoted to the spiritual needs of the large numbers of Poles who had immigrated to the northeast section of the city from Poznan Province in that

part of Poland under Prussian control.

In 1888 land bordering Hudson Avenue, Norton Street and Salmon Street (now St. Stanislaus Street) was purchased and the St. Stanislaus Parish of Rochester was incorporated. In June 1890 construction of a small wooden frame church was begun, and in Nov. 1890 Bishop Bernard McQuaid dedicated the church.

Rev. Theophilus Szadzinski was appointed the first pastor of this new parish. He undertook the construction of a rectory and, after the debt incurred in the purchase of the land and erection of the church and rectory had been liquidated, Father Szadzinski turned his attention to the construction of a parish school. This school opened in May 1897 with an enrollment of 160 students and staffed by the teaching Sisters of St. Joseph. The school consisted of five classrooms on the first floor with living quar-

ters for the Sisters on the second floor and a basement hall.

The next 20 years saw the population of the parish increase with the influx of Polish immigrants to such an extent that the church seating only 350 persons became too small to accommodate the parishioners. As a result, Father Szadzinski supervised the construction of another larger church, this one the present St. Stanislaus Church with its Romanesque architecture.

Begun in August 1907 the new church was ready for its solemn dedication on August 1, 1909, by the Most Rev. Paul Rohde, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago. However, Father Szadzinski was destined never to celebrate Mass in the church he had built. He became ill while construction was in its final phases and died in August 1909.

Rev. Ignatius J. Klejna was appointed pastor in 1910. The years from 1910 to 1915 were especially difficult for Father Klejna. Due to the lack of vocations among Polish-speaking boys in the diocese, there was a lack of priests to assist Father Klejna in carrying out the duties of the parish. In 1915 Rev. Joseph A. Balcerak, whose ordination to the priesthood was the first from the parish, was appointed as assistant to Father Klejna until 1918. At that time Father Balcerak was appointed as pastor of St. Casimir's Church in Elmira.

From 1918 to 1925, when Father Klejna resigned as pastor due to ill health, several priests from outside the diocese aided him in the parish duties as temporary assistants. During this fifteen-year period three tower bells and stained glass windows were installed in the new church, a separate convent was built for the Sisters with the second floor of the school building being converted into classrooms, and a new rectory was constructed.

When Father Klejna resigned, Father Stanislaus J. Szupa was appointed as his successor. The parish continued to grow at a rapid pace, and this resulted in an ever-increasing enrollment in the parish school. Father Szupa purchased three portable schools with two classrooms each in 1926, and this alleviated the situation temporarily. But by 1930 the school overcrowding became serious and a new school building was constructed. It had ten classrooms with a large audi-



RICH AND COLORFUL is the decoration of the sanctuary of St. Stanislaus Church, first parish for Catholics of Polish origin in the Rochester area.

torium and a basement with four bowling alleys for the use of the parishioners. These were the days of employment and the heavy financial obligations of the parish and in failing health, Father Szupa resigned as pastor in Dec. 1933.

AS HIS SUCCESSOR, Archbishop Edward Mooney transferred Father Joseph Balcerak from St. Casimir's Church in Elmira to St. Stanislaus Parish; Father John F. Woloch was appointed his assistant. Fathers Peter T. Jankowski and Stanislaus Bialeszewski, who had been assistants to Father Szupa, were transferred to other parishes.

The rapid expansion of the parish had resulted in a \$400,000 debt. Through the efforts of Father Balcerak and with the cooperation of the parishioners, the debt was liquidated by Dec. 1950. The burning of the mortgage was celebrated with the proper ceremonies and a banquet on Sunday, Dec. 10, 1950. While the debt was being reduced, Father Balcerak also made improvements and repairs in the church, school building, rectory and convent. In 1941 a new organ was installed in the church. In recognition of his religious leadership, Pope Pius XII named Father Balcerak as a domestic prelate in 1947 with the title of Rt. Rev. Monsignor.

To meet the needs of the increased enrollment in the parish school, more teaching Sisters of St. Joseph were required and the original convent became too small. In anticipation of the need to enlarge and remodel the convent, a Convent Building Fund was initiated by Monsignor Balcerak in 1951. Its purpose was to raise a sufficient amount of money so that the parish would not have to go into debt. By 1958 \$135,000 had been raised and work was begun.

On October 31, 1950, Msgr. Balcerak died suddenly and Rev. Alexander J. Stec was appointed as his successor.

In the past 75 years the parish has grown from approximately 50 families to approximately 1100 families today. Although there is still a large Polish-speaking population in the parish, its character has changed with the changing times, and now all ethnic groups are represented. The school has grown from 160 students and three Sisters in 1897 to 565 students, 9 Sisters and 8 lay teachers.

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Serra Convention Opens Tonight

Delegates to the combined District Convention of Serra International which opens tonight (Nov. 5) in Rochester will hear several of their national leaders in action.

Frank E. Carey, Jr. of Oklahoma City, first vice-President of the Serra organization will speak on "The Priest and Sermon, Co-laborers with Christ," at the Saturday night dinner set for the Sheraton Hotel.

"The Challenge of Serra" will be explored by Merlin P. Van Dyke, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, a newly elected trustee of the Serra group this year. His address will be one of three scheduled on St. John Fisher College on Sunday morning.

Thomas J. Day, of Toronto, Canada, will discuss "The Sermon and the Newman Aposto-

late in the program also share in a continuing formation program, aimed at helping members "to think and act with the mind of the Church."

The more than 250 Serra Clubs now existing have a membership of over 10,000 Catholic men.



MERLIN P. VANDYKE



FRANK E. CAREY, JR.

late," in one of the Saturday morning talks, also at Fisher College.

Local chairman of the District Convention is Robert T. Howe of the Rochester Serra Club, assisted by Eugene Cusker as program chairman. F. Leslie Dollinger is chairman of registration and reception; arrangements are being handled by Benedict Messner. Hospitality to wives of delegates is in charge of Mrs. Richard Maurer, while Eaton Hammond is handling publicity.

Main purpose of the Serra Clubs is to foster and sustain vocations to the priesthood. The Catholic laymen who partici-

FORTY HOURS

Devotions of Forty Hours in Churches of Diocese of Rochester:

Sunday, Nov. 7—Corpus Christi, Rochester; St. Francis, Auburn; St. Mary, Elmira; St. Catherine, Ithaca; Epiphany,odus; St. Joseph, Wayland.



ST. STANISLAUS Church tower is a well-known landmark in the Hudson-Norton area of Rochester. Present pastor is Father Alexander J. Stec, shown here in front of the church.

Federal Aid Will Open New Vistas for Pupils

By JOHN J. DALY, JR.
(N.C.W.C. News Service)

Washington — Federal aid to education may bring visitors to the tourist mecca of Niagara Falls, N.Y., next year. Traveling in a colorful "mobile classroom" with a teacher and abundant audiovisual materials, the visitors will be children from public and private schools from disadvantaged inner city areas of Rochester, Syracuse and Buffalo.

The extent of the joint public-private effort is to broaden the horizons of youngsters whose knowledge of the world often is limited to the city block where they live.

The proposed project, which must meet approval of state and federal educational authorities, was outlined here by Father William M. Roche, superintendent of Catholic schools in the Rochester diocese.

Rochester is one of the first major cities to announce its plans under the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The act has three parts: aid for the education of children from low-income families, supplemental textbooks and library materials for students and creation of regional education centers.

In an interview during the annual meeting here of the Department of School Superintendents of the National Catholic Educational Association, Father Roche explained that the aid for disadvantaged children is the major portion of the law.

Public schools will administer the program and they are charged with making plans to aid all deprived youngsters, including those in non-public schools. This will be done largely through programs of "mobile services," such as bookmobiles, and visiting experts.

Father Roche described cooperation with the Rochester city public school superintendent, Herman R. Goldberg, as "superb."

"When the law was passed earlier in the year, we sat down together and said, 'Let's read this over and see what it means for our community.' We have been meeting monthly ever since," said Father Roche.

As a result of this liaison and determination, Rochester has a wide-scale proposal, including a variety of special services for children in parochial schools in disadvantaged areas.

Father Roche said that in addition to the traveling classroom, which it is hoped will be shared with other neighboring cities, there will be an artmobile, preschool programs similar to last summer's Project Head Start, an "art action" center where children will be able to draw, nursing service for students, visiting public schools experts in speech and hearing therapy, a bookmobile and special instruction in English for foreign-born, especially Puerto Ricans.

Father Roche explained that as Rochester's inner city, in a transition familiar to most major cities, absorbed low-income minority groups especially

is working on a long-range project to produce a course of studies tailored to the special needs of pupils.

"When Mr. Goldberg asked us what our pressing needs were, we were ready to answer," he said.

In last summer's Project Head Start program, the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, the Catholic school system and the public schools each detached one principal who became co-directors of a program which operated 25 centers in public schools, Catholic schools, Protestant churches and Jewish community centers, Father Roche said.

One major side-benefit of the new federal schooling aid, said Father Roche, has been the development of "close association of all educational agencies in the community."

ment of prayerful silence" at 11 a.m. has been made by the Commander of the Monroe County Legion group, Joseph L. Heyer. Heyer requests that citizens stand for a moment of silent prayer, remembering not only the departed veterans but by the prayer, "demonstrating their support of the American boys serving in Vietnam."

Bishop Kearney requests that the church bells of every Catholic parish be rung for two minutes, for the living and the dead, at 11 a.m. on Veterans' Day.

Veteran's Day

Bishop To Offer Memorial Mass

Religious observance of Veterans Day in Rochester will be highlighted by a 9 a.m. Mass on Thursday, Nov. 11 at St. Mary's Church. Bishop Kearney will celebrate the Memorial Mass and preach the sermon.

Veterans' groups will attend the Mass which is open to the public. The families of two Rochester servicemen, killed in action in Vietnam, will be honored guests, according to Father Thomas Reddington, county chaplain of the American Legion.

A special request for "a mo-



VETERANS' DAY plans are reviewed by Bishop Kearney and Joseph L. Heyer, Monroe County Commander of the American Legion. The Bishop will offer a Memorial Mass and preach at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 11 at St. Mary's Church.

LINCOLN LEASE/WAY'S TRUE-OR-FALSE LEASING TEST

(For the man who's planning to acquire capital equipment and wants a few popular misconceptions cleared up.)

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Capital equipment means machinery. True False
- 2 You can't lease a \$12,000 piece of equipment. True False
- 3 By leasing, you enjoy impressive tax breaks. True False
- 4 You generally lease one item at a time. True False
- 5 Leasing is the best method of financing capital equipment. True False
- 6 Leasing gives you 100% financing. True False
- 7 False. Capital equipment means more than machinery. Office furniture, computers, factory equipment, vehicles, many pieces of diverse equipment. Lincoln Lease/Way's expansion of a business can be leased through Lincoln Lease/Way.
- 8 False. You can't lease a \$12,000 piece of equipment. You can lease a \$12,000 piece of equipment. It depends on how much of your working capital you can afford to tie up. The most compelling advantage of discussing lease with Lincoln Lease/Way is that the financing company is there to help you. The bank can't help you. The two methods... depending on your precise needs.
- 9 True. So much for that.
- 10 False. Generally, lease payments are deductible as operating expenses. Tax benefits are possible, but they depend on your individual situation. Check with tax counsel.

ANSWERS:

If you'd like to ask us some questions, see any officer at any of our offices. Or, call 325-3600 and ask for Lincoln Lease/Way.

Lincoln Rochester