



Pieces of slate used to form a praying child inspired Amy T. Hoopes of Elberon, N.J., to write:

A prayer is broken into slate,
The pieces splinter and the rock will break.
The prayer speaks what man alone
Cannot cut in the grey blue stone.

Campaign Nears Goal

The nearly completed fund drive to expand college and seminary facilities in the Rochester Diocese inched toward its nine million dollar goal this week.

Campaign officials admitted, "We're over the eight million mark," but they said they couldn't give an exact total pledged to date "because we don't have complete reports from all the parishes as yet."

The "incomplete reports" in the campaign's parish division disclosed pledges totaling \$4,920,000—leaving an \$830,000 objective if the parishes are to meet their \$5,750,000 quota.

Final campaign results are scheduled next week for the parish committees and for other diocesan divisions, including the corporate, commerce and industry and major gifts committees.

Sixty-eight parishes had exceeded their campaign quotas through Monday.

Final parish committee report meetings are slated in nine districts of the Diocese on Monday and Tuesday nights, Nov. 22 and 23. Scheduled at 8 p.m., they include:

Nov. 22: District C, parishes in northeast Monroe County, and District B, southeast Monroe—Blessed Sacrament Hall, Rochester; District E, Livingston and western Ontario Counties—St. Agnes Hall, Avon; District G, Yates, western Wayne and eastern Ontario—St. Stephen's, Geneva; District H, Chemung, Tioga and Tompkins—Elmira.

Nov. 23: District A, northwest Monroe, and District B, southwest Monroe—Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester; District F,

Cayuga, Seneca and eastern Wayne—St. Mary's, Auburn; District J, Steuben and Schuyler—Corning.

Paul A. McGuire, parish division chairman, noted this week that in some instances the committee has made repeated visits without happening to find anyone at home.

McGuire suggested that parishioners who have not yet been reached telephone the parish rectory to arrange an appointment for the committee. He urged parish campaign workers to endeavor to complete all visits through Sunday.

Two-year pledges are being sought from parishioners throughout the Diocese for proposed expansion of Catholic higher education facilities.

Projects include new buildings at St. John Fisher and Nazareth Colleges, and the construction of Becket Hall, a residence to be erected adjacent to the St. John Fisher campus for seminarians taking their college courses there before pursuing theology studies at St. Bernard's Seminary.

Bishop Kearney has pointed out that the colleges need to expand if they are to keep pace with rising enrollments and the increasing demands on higher education institutions which are being made today.

In his plea for support, the Bishop declared that "we are deeply conscious of the responsibility we have for the proper training of today's youth—of
(Continued on Page 6)

In Elmira, Geneva and Rochester

Workshop for Organists, Music Directors

The Music Commission of the Rochester Diocese, will conduct a series of three music workshops during the winter months for organists, choirmasters and congregation leaders.

The first will be given for the parishes of the Elmira area Friday and Saturday, Dec. 10 and 11; at Notre Dame High School, Elmira. The other two have been set for the Geneva-Auburn area January 14 and 15 at St. Stephen's parish, Geneva, and the Rochester area Feb. 11 and 12 at Mercy High School.

Father Peter E. Sheehan of St. John Fisher College who has arranged the workshop programs, said they will assist church musicians of the Diocese in the implementation in

A Day to Give Thanks to God

U.S. Catholics, like other Americans, will pray in gratitude as well as feast in joy on Thanksgiving Day next Thursday.

Many will begin the national holiday at Mass. Others will offer their prayers of thanks privately or with their families at home.

President Johnson, in his Thanksgiving Day proclamation, said the Pilgrims originated the custom because "their harvest was abundant." Today, he said, "we have much more than an abundant harvest."

He listed the nation's blessings —

- It is "rich and strong and united in the cause of liberty and justice."
- Its "physical comforts are unmatched anywhere in the world."
- "We have guaranteed the right to vote to all our citizens."
- "We have pledged dignity to our elderly—even in sickness. We have added new dimensions to the education of our youth. We have broadened the horizons of opportunity for our poor."

The President said "our real blessings" are greater, however, than the

"bounty" of achievement of the past year—"belief in the essential dignity of man, the restless search for a better world for all, and the courage—as shown by our sons in Vietnam today—to defend the cause of freedom wherever on earth it is threatened."

To preserve these blessings, the President said our prayer of thanks to God should include "pledging to Him our everlasting devotion."

Catholics can add to President Johnson's litany of thanksgiving their own special items—the new spirit of freedom and initiative which is increasingly characteristic of their Church's life, the decision of the Vatican Council to keep the Church alert to the world's needs and progress, new opportunities for a deeper devotional life centered in the Church's official acts of worship, continued expansion of Catholic educational facilities . . . and, of course, our own personal reasons for thanks to God—our homes and family, our friends, and finally even our trials and heartaches which purify us and focus our attention on our greatest blessing—God's abiding love for us in His Son Jesus Christ who gave His life for our redemption.

—Father Henry Atwell

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Lunch Aids Learning

School lunches seem to have made considerable improvement since we were pupils. Teachers at two Auburn schools—Holy Family and Herman Avenue Public School—observed National Education Week by an exchange of visits and dinner together. John Whales, Miss Lillian Donahue, William Flynn and Sister Mary Cephas were four who took part in the event.

No Decision Expected on Birth Control

By Father Flacid Jordan, O.S.B.

Rome—(NC)—It seems unlikely that Pope Paul VI will announce a decision on the controversial issue of birth control in the near future, according to authoritative sources in Rome.

Questioned about the reports that a ruling on the subject is being postponed, one informed churchman acknowledged that moral theologians need more time to study the issues involved.

"They are faced by problems that so far have not been considered in recent medical and social studies," he said. "Progress is being made, but the opinions of the lay and clerical experts still reflect considerable differences.

"In view of this fact it may be well to let these studies mature rather than rushing into a premature decision which easily could prove unsatisfactory."

It is being pointed out here that the Church is never likely to take a stand when there is no certainty about the right course to pursue. Late in the 16th century, for instance, the controversy between the Jesuits and Dominicans over the relation of grace and free will reached such intensity that Pope Clement VIII convened a special assembly of the theologians to settle the dispute.

The assembly lasted nine full

Dispensation Next Friday

Bishop Kearney has dispensed Catholics in the Rochester Diocese from the Church's law of abstinence for Friday, Nov. 27, the day after Thanksgiving.

"Catholics may eat meat, therefore, on that day as on any other day.

years without settling the argument. Finally, in 1609, Pope Paul V took the advice of St. Francis de Sales and decided to leave the matter in abeyance. So after 20 years of heated quarrels the question remained unsolved, and to this day both the Thomistic and Molinistic theories on predestination and the efficacy of grace can be discussed freely.

The problem of responsible parenthood does not offer a direct parallel because it has profound personal as well as theological implications. Nevertheless, there is a similarity inasmuch as the Church, even in this case, may find it necessary to await the results of studies regardless of the delays they require.

Views of bishops and theologians can differ considerably, as it was found recently when Pope Paul asked the bishops for advice about the prospective reform of fast and abstinence

regulations. Ultimately the Pope must always have the last word.

On the other hand, this fact demonstrates the burden of the responsibilities the Pope must shoulder. Speaking of the issue of birth control, Pope Paul remarked not long ago in an interview that the Church "never had to face such things in past centuries."

"In deciding," he said, "we are alone." And he added: "It is necessary that God enlighten us."

Council Denies OK for Nuclear Deterrent

The Vatican Council refused this week to give its ok to stockpiling nuclear weapons as a defensive deterrent.

Its action was an equivalent rejection of a proposal by U.S. bishops who wanted Church sanction for what amounts to existing U.S. government practice.

The revised text cites the horror of destruction made possible by modern weapons and says, "In our time, which possesses atomic power, it is irrational to say that war is any longer a suitable means of redress."

The text also calls on military men to follow their consciences in wartime situations and to refuse to carry out any orders they judge contrary to moral law.

Seminary Traditions

Rome—(NC)—Returning to the institutions where he had been a student 40 years before, Pope Paul VI blessed a new building of the Lombard College on Rome's Esquilina Hill.

In his talk to the students, Pope Paul praised the value of tradition in seminary training against the "heedless and disparaging mentality some modern innovators have toward the past," which, he said, is "not entirely intelligent."

Mass So You See It

Parishioners at Sacred Heart Cathedral will get a better view of the Mass ritual beginning this Sunday.

A new altar has been erected there so the priest will face the people.

Last Sunday's parish bulletin said a wood altar will be used until a marble table altar is ready. The present main altar will also remain in the Cathedral sanctuary.

The bulletin also stated that the Daprato Studios of Chicago who designed the Cathedral's main altar will construct the new marble altar.

"According to the (Vatican Council's) new liturgical Constitution," the bulletin notes, "it is preferred that the priest face the people when saying the Mass, and this is also the wish of the Holy Father."

OTHER CHURCHES of the Rochester Diocese with such altars include St. John the Evangelist Church in Greece and St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Irondequoit, Blessed Sacrament, Holy Family and St. Anthony churches, Rochester, Christ the King Church, Irondequoit, St. Mary's, Auburn.

The massive white marble altar in old St. Patrick's Cathedral is currently being installed in St. Francis Xavier Church, Rochester. The towering tabernacle will be placed against the sanctuary wall but the altar table will be placed forward so the priest will face the people at Mass.

Don't Tamper With New Texts, Pope Says

Vatican City—(NC)—Pope Paul has declared that when liturgical texts are translated into vernacular languages with the approval of local and Roman Church authorities they have the force of Church law.

Speaking to 400 participants of a congress of translators of liturgical books, the Pope said liturgical texts approved by competent authority and confirmed by the Holy See "must be religiously preserved."

"No one, therefore, may alter, shorten, lengthen or omit them," according to his own judgment," he said.

"Although the Church shows herself to be a benign and liberal mother in liturgical matters . . . nevertheless, whatever is legitimately established, already has the force of ecclesiastical law . . ."

Pope Paul spoke of the need for smooth, understandable translations which retain a nobility and which follow the original texts. He said that in countries where there is only one language there should be only one official translation, and he added that all work in this field should be done in collaboration with the hierarchy.

Among the Pope's listeners were 10 cardinals, including Joseph Cardinal Ritter of St. Louis and Giacomo Lercaro of Bologna who is head of the post-conciliar liturgical commission.

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Father Sheehan Father Khanna

Diocesan Music Commission; and Donald Baber, organist and choirmaster, St. Jerome's Church, East Rochester.

On Saturday, Francis J. Pilecki, organist and choirmaster of Sacred Heart Cathedral, and Father Robert G. Smith, professor of sacred music, St. Bernard's Seminary, will discuss music repertory in the opening

session. The final session will be devoted to vocal music and singing. The speakers will be Father Smith; Sister M. Claudia, S.S.A., chairman of the music and drama department, St. Agnes High School; and Louis J. Ugino, choirmaster of St. John the Evangelist Church, Greece.

The program for each workshop also includes Mass and a luncheon at which Father Charles J. McCarthy, pastor of St. Andrew's Church, Rochester, will be the guest speaker. Throughout each workshop a large selection of liturgical music will be on display.

The general chairman for the workshops, Father Sheehan is chairman of the Department of Theology, St. John Fisher College, and editor of "The New St. Basil Hymnal." Regional chairmen are Father William J. Reed, Elmira; Father Phillip J. Lioi, Geneva; and Sister M. Barbara, R.S.M., and Father Sheehan, Rochester.