

# The Bishop Plans Visits To People in Parishes

Bishop Sheen will visit four parishes during Lent so the people of his Diocese can meet him personally.

Following is the announcement of his plan as released at the Chancery today.

In past times the faithful came to the bishops and the priests; in this day the bishops and the priests must go to the people. This availability characterized the life of the itinerant Christ, who could be seen in Simon's house, on the roadway between Jericho and Jerusalem, and in homes of fishermen. It should now begin to be practiced by the bishop, who should give himself mobility and accessibility to priests and people who may want to see him.

During Lent, therefore, I shall make myself available,

one day each week, in a parish rectory of the Diocese where I can be visited from 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The following will be my schedule:

Friday, February 24 — St. Francis Xavier Rectory.  
Wednesday, March 1 — St. Mary of the Assumption Rectory, Scottsville.

Wednesday, March 8 — St. Stanislaus Rectory.

Wednesday, March 15 — St. Patrick's Rectory, Victor.

Should there be questions regarding my visit to a parish, please contact the rectory.

✠ FULTON J. SHEEN  
BISHOP OF ROCHESTER



## Kremlin Chief at Vatican

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI receives President Nikolai V. Podgorny of the Soviet Union (right) in an historic private audience at the Vatican which lasted more than one hour. It was reported that the two leaders discussed world peace and Catholic Church problems in Russia. In center is Nikita Ryzhov, Soviet Ambassador to Italy. Mr. Podgorny was the first Soviet head of State ever to be received by a reigning pontiff. He also was the first Russian head of state to visit the Vatican since Czar Nicholas II in 1909.

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## Open House at 18 Churches

A second round of open-house programs will link 18 Catholic and Protestant churches this Sunday, Feb. 12.

A diocesan-wide open-house program in November coupled 24 congregations and a third series is scheduled for Sunday, April 9.

This Sunday's, Feb. 12, event will include only churches in Monroe County.

Arranged by the Rochester Diocesan Council of Catholic Women and comparable agencies of the various Protestant denominations, the program will include visits to one another's churches, an explanation of the ritual items and ways of worship and conclude with informal discussions and a social hour.

Parish bulletins should be consulted for precise time, most ecumenical exchanges begin at 3 p.m. Visits begin in the first church listed in each of the fol-

lowing paired arrangements, and names are those of the chairmen of the program at that church.

1) South United Presbyterian Church, 4 East Henrietta Rd. Mr. Graham Chamberlain and St. Anne's Church, 1600 Mt. Hope Ave. Mr. and Mrs. John Conway.

2) St. Louis Church, 46 S. Main—St. Pittsford, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Byrne and Pittsford United Presbyterian Church, 21 Church St., Pittsford, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Parks.

3) Holy Ghost Church, 250 Coldwater Rd., Mr. and Mrs. Ralph S. O'Neil and Epiphany Episcopal Church, 3285 Buffalo Rd., Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Barclay.

4) St. Pius X Church, 3032 Chili Ave., Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Limbeck and Parkminster United Presbyterian Church, 2710 Chili Ave., Mr. and Mrs. Charles DeGraves.

5) St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 618 Clifford Ave., Mr. William J. Renno and Miss Martha Schwaderer and St. Michael's Church, 869 Clinton Ave. N., Mr. George Tunney and Mrs. Sidney J. Wilkin.

6) Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 3736 St. Paul Blvd., Mrs. J. Walter Dawson and Mrs. Brandon Louk and St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 4536 St. Paul Blvd., Mr. and Mrs. John Breslin.

7) St. John Evangelist Church, 2408 Ridge Rd. W., Mr. and Mrs. James Cloonen and Greece Baptist Church, 1230 Long Pond Rd., Mr. Clifford Hulick.

8) Holy Rosary Church, 198 Oriole St., Mr. and Mrs. Milton Ryan and Grace Methodist Church, 121 Driving Park Ave., Mr. and Mrs. David Thorne.

9) St. George's Episcopal Church, 4352 Lake Ave., Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rauscher and Holy Cross Church, 4482 Lake Ave., Mr. and Mrs. Martin Peterson.

## Bishop Sheen's Mass, Sermon in Parishes

Bishop Sheen will celebrate Mass and preach in several parish churches during Lent, according to the following schedule announced at the Chancery today:

St. Jerome's, East Rochester, Friday, Feb. 10, 7:45 p.m.

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Sunday, Feb. 12, 1 p.m.

Blessed Sacrament, Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7:45 p.m.

St. Francis Xavier, Friday, Feb. 24, 7:45 p.m.

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Sunday, Feb. 26, 1 p.m.

St. Mary's of the Assumption, Scottsville, Wednesday, March 1, 7:45 p.m.

St. Francis, Phelps, Friday, March 3, 7:45 p.m.

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Sunday, March 5, 1 p.m.

St. Stanislaus, Wednesday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.

Holy Trinity, Webster, Friday, March 10, 7:45 p.m.

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Sunday, March 12, 1 p.m.

St. Patrick's, Victor, Wednesday, March 15, 7:30 p.m.

## Pope Plans Parish Visits

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul announced in a pre-Lenten address to parish priests and Lenten preachers of Rome that he will decree a program of pastoral visitation for his diocese and that "we shall ourselves carry out some visitations personally."

Date of the visitations will be determined later and announced in the Lateran Basilica, he said. Administration of the program will be entrusted to the Pope's Vicar for Rome, Luigi Cardinal Traglia, assisted by bishops and clergy assigned to administration of the city.

Pope Paul described the pastoral visitation plan as "an event of the greatest import" and said that "not a little time" had passed since the pastoral visitation ordered and organized by his predecessor, Pope Pius XI.

"Much has changed in Rome since then," he said, "beginning with the enormous expansion, the great rise in population and

the difference in social and moral customs from those times. Moreover, the Ecumenical Council has introduced many changes in the life of the Church."

The pontiff urged both diocesan and the religious order clergy to enter into the process of renewal with "the wisdom and generosity required."

"Do not let yourselves be dazzled by the search for novelty as an end in itself, not coming from inward logic or from the consent and encouragement of the authorities responsible for doctrinal fundaments, or from the Church's traditional practice," he urged. "But further bar the taste for eccentricity and conformism to unorthodox trends of thought and profanation

ing ways that have here and there gained entrance in the precincts of the Church.

"But do not oppose on the other hand with preconceived or sluggish reserve the immense treasures of teaching and precept which the Council offers for further renewal in the Church. Study to understand these teachings offered and to back up the work of renovation proposed. Upon you, priests, depends in great part the positive and beneficial result of the Council."

Establishment of administrative offices of the Diocese of Rome to the Lateran Palace will restore a tradition broken by the moving of the papacy to Avignon in the 14th Century.

## Nearly \$5 Million Paid In College Fund Campaign

Otto Shults, president of the Joint College Fund, in a special report released today says that \$4,700,000 or 45 per cent of the campaign pledge had been realized by the end of 1966. Approximately \$3,000,000 of the pledged total is in the form of deferred payments.

In the parishes 53 per cent of the \$6,400,000 pledged by the Catholics of the Diocese has been paid to date. Mr. Shults

stated that "special credit should be given the pastors and moderators, who have striven so hard to keep attention focused on the fulfillment of our responsibility to the JCF."

He also pointed out that the Matching Gifts policy of so many firms throughout the Diocese has already contributed towards the final pledge realization. These matching gifts will help to offset any legitimate cancellations, he said.

Reporting on building progress at Becket Hall, Monsignor Joseph L. Hogan states that there is little doubt that the new residence will be completely ready for use this September. Construction is on schedule, the building is enclosed, and the interior finishing is about to begin.

Very Rev. Charles Lavery, C.S.B., president of St. John Fisher College, stated that the footings for the new Science Building have been placed and wall construction begun. Scheduled completion date is February, 1968. Father Lavery also noted that the schematic drawings for the new College Library are complete and construction for this building is to begin this summer.

From Nazareth College comes news that the Fine Arts Center will also achieve scheduled completion by September, 1967. The roofing is complete, and the exterior practically finished. Indeed, much of the interior of the Art and Music wing is virtually complete.

Mr. Shults expressed his appreciation to all who have contributed to the Joint College Fund, and stated that, on the basis of past performance, he was confident that "the final outcome will be most gratifying."

(The fourth quarter report of payments for the Joint College Fund is published on page four of this week's Courier.)

## Pope Asks Children Aid Needy

Pope Paul told children in U.S. parochial schools that in other areas of the world there are youngsters—many are ill, frail and weak from hunger and malnutrition.

He said, "What schools they have often have no desks, no windows, no lights and only hardened earth floors."

He spoke to the American children in a special radio broadcast beamed from the Vatican to this country's six million Catholic school pupils on Ash Wednesday.

"It is for these poor children whom you hardly know that the Holy Father appeals to you and he knows that you will be as generous as in the past."

The Pope's broadcast was the first step in a six weeks campaign to raise funds to relieve suffering around the world. The campaign seeks to raise five million dollars in the United States and will climax with a collection to be taken in all parish churches Sunday, March 5.

## Ecumenical Seminaries

St. Bernard's Seminary and Rochester Colgate Divinity School have been stirred by God's ecumenical hand — two noted institutions which long went their separate ways independently of one another.

An exchange program in which 16 professors of the two schools will lecture as guests and a student seminar series on ecumenology will link the schools in an initial phase of mutual aid.

Other than seminary professors will also be included in the program for specialized topics as when Rev. Henry Atwell, editor of the Courier Journal, will speak on religious journalism at a seminar at Colgate Tuesday, Feb. 21.

## Modest Diocese, That We Are

Time magazine this week provides a progress report on Bishop Sheen's two months in the Rochester Diocese, which Time editors describe as "a modest diocese."

The Bishop, they say, is still "spectacular" in his pastoral work as he is widely noted to be in his television work and concludes — "he may be remembered as the best bishop Rochester ever had — instead of the man who rivaled Milton Berle in the Nielsen ratings."

## A Word About Lent

# The Lord says Yes to a Blind Man's Prayer

"Receive your sight, your faith has saved you."

Those words of our Lord provided blind Bartimeus of Jericho the gift he had hoped beyond hope someday to enjoy.

How do those of us who have the gift of sight begin to understand its lack?

I GAINED a glimpse of this when giving a retreat to a group of blind women at the Convent in Rochester a year ago.

While talking to them about the Mass, I mentioned the chalice — and then wondered if they knew what a chalice "looked" like.

I took the chalice out to them in the pews to let them "see" it as the blind do — with their hands.

One lady, blind from birth, rapidly ran her fingers around the cup, the sides and base and then, in an awed voice, said, "So that's what it looks like! I often wondered."

Something you and I see at every Mass, something we take so much for granted was for her a life-long mystery.

I then invited them to see by one into the sanctuary to "see" with their hands the altar, the candles, the tabernacle, the crucifix, the altar and then the other sanctuary furnishings — pulpit, statues, etc.

How gratefully they were at long last to have a sense of what these things were — things

we so often see and take such little notice of.

Is it any wonder then that when Jesus stood before Bartimeus at the gate of the city where he had sat as a beggar for years and when Jesus asked him, "What would you have me do for you?" that Bartimeus promptly replied, his one chance in a lifetime, "Lord, that I may see!"

And the Lord's answer was yes.

The Gospel story ends there but did you ever think of what Bartimeus must have done the rest of that day?

Certainly he must have run home to see for the first time his mother and father, to see his home, his family and friends, to see flowers and the sky and his city — even to look at his own hands which until then had been his only way of knowing a world that for him had always been in darkness.

But do you think that during that day, or even during the rest of his life, that Bartimeus ever forgot what he first saw? What was that? When he opened his eyes to see for the first time in his life there in front of him stood Jesus, our Lord.

Spiritually, we are often a Bartimeus. We fail to see Christ, even though He is very close to us.

At baptism, His image, the

Christ-character was stamped on our souls . . . but who is able to see it there today?

That is the purpose of Lent — to awaken our faith to the fact that Christ lives within us and within the lives of others. Certainly if we pray the Bartimeus prayer, "Lord, that I may see," and so live that others can see Christ in us and we seek to see Him in others then all of our lives will be better lives.

—Father Henry A. Atwell



Jordan — (RNS) — The High Priest of the Samaritans stands atop Mt. Gerizim in Nablus, a village in Jordan—the holy mountain where original members of the ancient Jewish sect built their first temple. Members of the dwindling sect—only about 345 are left, most of them in Nablus—claim descent from the "Good Samaritan."

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Fifty Years In Scouting A special four page tabloid in this issue of the Courier Turn to Page 8.