

Newman, Health Posts Given Sisters Of Mercy

Sister Mary Jonatha of the Sisters of Mercy has been appointed to the Newman Apostolate of Cornell University. She will assist Father Richard Torney and Father David Connor, in the guidance of the Catholic community on the Ithaca campus. At present a teacher at Catherine McAuley College, Sister Jonatha has taught at Notre Dame High School in Elmira and Our Lady of Mercy High School in Rochester. She has also served as principal and superior at Our Lady of Lourdes in Elmira.



SISTER JONATHA

Sister Mary Elizabeth Anne will begin her career in Public Health Nursing, the first sister to be employed in this capacity by the Monroe County Board of Health.

Sister Mary Bonaventure was named dean of Catherine McAuley College and chairman of the newly appointed community education committee. Sister Mary Petrus will teach in the English department of Marymount College for the year 1967-68.

Sister Mary Peter has been named Director of Vocations and community psychologist. Sister Mary Esther will be the community's Public Relations Coordinator.

Eight Sisters will be in full-time social service work. Sister Mary Joanne will continue in her role of Co-Director of the Headstart Program of Action for a Better Community. Sister Mary Joseph will assist Father David Finks, Diocesan Director

of the Inner City, and Sister Mary Blaise will take up residence in the Sisters of Mercy Joseph Avenue Center with Sister Mary Concepta and Sister Mary Claude. Sister Mary Rosalia has been appointed to the staff of Catholic Family Center. Sister Mary Regis and Sister Mary Roberta will do social work in Mount Carmel parish. Sister Mary Alphonsus will

join the staff of St. James Mercy Hospital in charge of the Hospital Development program. Sister Alphonsus is president of the hospital Board of Trustees.

Sister Joseph Mary has been appointed fulltime to King's Preparatory School as chairman of the English department. Sister Mary Suzanne will give catechetical instruction and make home visits in Annunciation parish.

Sister Mary Beatrice has been named liaison person between the directors of Fairness to Children Campaign and Sisters of Mercy Convents.

Four new principals will preside in diocesan schools in September: Sister Mary Brendan at Holy Cross School; Sister Mary list; Sister Mary Vincent, St. Joseph at St. John the Evangelist's West Webster; Sister Mary Consilia, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School. A new assistant principal has been appointed at Notre Dame High School, Sister Mary Basil.

Seven Sisters will become superiors of their convents in September: Sister Mary Gabriel, Mercy Motherhouse; Sister Mary Adolphine, St. James Convent; Sister Mary Frederica, St. Joseph, Penfield; Sister Mary Joseph, St. John the Evangelist; Sister Mary Consilia, Our Lady of Mount Carmel; Sister Mary Margretta, St. Rita's, West Webster; Sister Jane Frances, Notre Dame High School Convent, Elmira.

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Page 5



New Pastor

FATHER JOSEPH T. GAYNOR has been named pastor of St. Catherine's parish, Addison. He has served as administrator of St. Catherine's since last March. Ordained in 1945, Father Gaynor has served as assistant pastor in St. Francis of Assisi, Auburn; St. Michael's, Newark; St. Peter and Paul, Rochester, and St. John the Evangelist, Clyde.

Father Loera Shepherd for the Migrant Workers

BY FATHER ROBERT KANKA

It's a long trip from Guadalajara, Mexico, to Penn Yan, N.Y., but Father Ernest Loera makes it every summer to minister to Spanish-speaking migrant workers in Yates County.

The 35-year old Franciscan teachers philosophy at a major seminary in the Mexican city, but once school is out, he heads north for Penn Yan.

He's been coming for seven years now, ever since he was contracted by Monsignor Joseph J. Sullivan, who is pastor of St. Michael's Church in Penn Yan. Father Loera was doing graduate work at St. Bonaventure when he heard from a priest friend that Monsignor Sullivan was looking for a priest who could speak Spanish and work with the many migrant workers who toil in the Penn Yan area each year.

Responding to the need, Father Loera came to spend the summer at Penn Yan in 1961 and has been back each year since then.

"Very worthwhile, and very enjoyable to me," says the youthful Franciscan, who likes teaching philosophy, but leans more toward pastoral work.

He gets plenty of it during his week-stint at St. Michael's as he estimates that there are almost 400 Spanish-speaking people in the area doing farm work. They are divided between Puerto Ricans and American-Mexicans, mostly from Texas.

The workers move with the crops. Many have just come from States of Delaware, but will stay in Yates County until the grapes are harvested in the fall.

Father Loera conducts a varied apostolate. He offers Mass several times a week at the migrant camps, visits the workers



FATHER ERNESTO LOERA

at their homes and tries to help in any way he can with their needs.

"I do a fair amount of letter-writing for those who don't know how," he recounts. This includes some heartfelt messages to young ladies back home in Texas from their lonesome boyfriends working up North.

Most of his summer flock haven't had much instruction in religion, so he tries to get across the fundamentals in his simple sermons, as well as in individual chats.

He also stresses habits of sensible management, like thrift. The workers make quite a bit of money, at least for them, and they're tempted to spend it all at once," he smiles.

So he encourages the heads of the families to put some of their hard earned wages in the bank each week.

Most of the field hands get \$1.50 an hour, but twenty five cents of this goes to the contractor who acts as go-between for the workers and the farmers.

Monsignor Sullivan wants the workers to feel welcome in his church, so Father Loera frequently brings in a busload of people to Sunday Mass at St. Michael's. The Mexican priest speaks well of the Penn Yan pastor, whom he regards as "a truly apostolic priest."

The genial Franciscan adapts himself to the situation as he finds it. When he finds a few people who want to go to confession at a camp, he borrows an empty room, hangs a blanket on the door and sets up shop.

Many of the workers have their whole families with them and work becomes a group project, "with the kids working alongside their parents," he reports.

The biggest concentration of migrant workers ("about 100") in the area live on the farm of Harland Chidsey. Others live in smaller camps.

There are also a large number of Spanish-speaking workers in the Geneva area. Another Franciscan, Father Armand Snyder, who works out of St. Francis Xavier parish there, looks after their spiritual needs.

Shepherding the nomadic laborers is a man-sized job, but Father Loera wouldn't trade his summer assignment for anything.

"Life can be very academic for a professor," he comments, and it's great to get into pastoral work.

Teacher Testifies:

Blaine Proviso Blocks Special Needs

A Syracuse school psychologist who serves children in both the public and parochial schools of that city, has called for repeal of the so-called Blaine Amendment in the New York State Constitution.

The Blaine provision is Article XI, Section 3 and prohibits the use of state funds for any church-related schools.

Mrs. Gerald Gluck said that the issue should be seen primarily as aid to children. Many children from low and low-middle income families attend Catholic schools, she asserted, and "some need special help to learn basic skills."

To use state funds for this purpose "is not a question of funding religious education," she stated, but rather of providing necessary special services which are "completely non-religious in character."

The school psychologist testified at the recent hearing of the Education Committee of the State Constitutional Convention held in Buffalo.

Mrs. Gluck pointed out the inconsistency that now exists: that federal funds can be provided for such services while state funds cannot be used for the same educational work.

"Such services should be provided by the state to all children," she testified. "Where these services are rendered should not make a difference; what is important is the who and the what that children receive the service they need."

Mrs. Gluck is employed by the Syracuse public schools and is also assigned to two inner city Catholic schools under the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Noting that she is not a Catholic herself, the education specialist added that in Syracuse one of every three children is being educated in the Catholic schools.

After 55 Years

Girlhood Chums Reunited Here

Three women who had been girlhood friends in the little Sicilian village of Aidone held a joyful reunion in Rochester last week.

For two of them, it was the first meeting in 55 years. Back in 1912, Grace Calcagno, who was off to America to seek her fortune, bade farewell to her sister, Lorenzina and Paula Costanza. The latter two were planning to enter the religious life.

Grace married Samuel Romano two years later in the United States, and now lives at 386 North Park St. in Annunciation parish in Rochester. Her husband died in 1949.

Lorenzina entered the convent, but had to leave after six months due to poor health. "They thought they were sending me home to die," she reminisced last week, "but my health improved and I'm still going strong."

Paula Costanza entered religion, but only after emigrating to the United States herself. Now Sister Maria Baptista, she has been a nun for 38 years, is presently training catechists at Maryland Convent in Suffern, N.Y.

The reunion of the three became possible when Miss Lorenzina Calcagno made her first trip to the States last month. One of the first things she did after reaching her sister's Rochester home, was to phone Sister Maria Baptista at Suffern.

An understanding superior at Sister's convent gave her permission to take her vacation in Rochester, and the three old friends have been renewing their acquaintance for the past few days. Sister Maria Baptista stays at the convent of the Mercy sisters at Annunciation parish nights, but spends the days at the Romano home.

While Lorenzina was not des-



AFTER MANY YEARS, three girlhood friends who finally managed a reunion after many years enjoy a good visit. From left are Mrs. Grace Romano, Miss Lorenzina Calcagno and Sister Maria Baptista. See story for details.

tinued to become a nun, she has been able to follow her apostolic bent. She has served in a variety of posts in the Catholic Action unit at Aidone, being president for several years.

Of the 11 Calcagno children, only three are still alive, Grace, Lorenzina and a brother Santo. Fortunately, he lives nearby in Victor, so he has been able to share in the reunion too.

Mrs. Tina Cerame, daughter of Mrs. Romano, has been chief arranger, chauffeur and when needed, interpreter, for the reunion. The interpreting is mostly for Lorenzina Calcagno, who speaks no English. Mrs. Romano and Sister Maria Baptista kept up their Italian, so most of the conversation goes on in lively Sicilian. When guests who don't understand Italian are present, Mrs. Cerame does her interpreting.

The program calls for refreshments from 2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. with the Aquinas Institute Band performing from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., with games to follow from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. and supper to be served by the Knights and Ladies of St. John at 5 p.m.

The committee is headed by Capt. Clarence Weist, assisted by Col. John G. Bittner, Mrs. Ruth Martindale, President of the Ladies Auxillary, Lt. Col. John T. Schneider and the Public Relation Committee headed by Albert Scranton, and Father Frederick J. Eisemann of St. Peter and Paul Church.



Cornerstone For Greece Church

Documents and mementos are placed in the cornerstone of Holy Name of Jesus Church in Greece. Doing the final honors are, from left, Father Lawrence Gross, assistant pastor and Father Thomas Reddington, pastor. Father Joseph Dalley, Vicar for Pastoral Planning in the diocese, is behind Father Reddington. The ceremony took place on Sunday, July 2. (Photo by Carl Frederick)



FATHER McDONALD

Fr. McDonald Mass Slated

A Mass of thanksgiving will be offered in St. Anthony's church, Elmira on Sunday, July 16 at 5 p.m. by Father Thomas F. McDonald.

Father McDonald, the first member of the parish to receive Holy Orders is the son of Mrs. Mary C. McDonald and the late Fletcher T. McDonald.

He attended St. Anthony's parochial school, Notre Dame high school, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries, was sent to the North American College in Rome and completed his studies in Theology at the Gregorian University in Rome.

He was ordained in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome by the Most Rev. Francis F. Reh, rector of the North American College on December 17, 1966 and celebrated his first Mass at the Basilica of St. Clement on December 18.

A reception will be held for Father McDonald in the parish center from 6 until 9 following the Mass.

SPECIAL FEATURE

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