

Parents Are Still the Key to Education

tional excellence of Catholic

schools, and to urge positive measures which will bring about

them.

By MSGR. WILLIAM M. ROCHE and more meaningful ways of preaching and teaching. But Superintendent of Schools until these new forms are suf-**Diocese of Rochester** ficiently recognizable, and until

The principle has always been the results of new approaches clearly understood that the prito education can demonstrate mary responsibility for educaat least the equivalent success tion rests with the parents. of our Catholic schools, our However, it must be confessed that this principle was little commitment to the latter must observed and practiced. The pascontinue.

tor, the principal, and even the individual teachers in Catholic Education itself is the most rapidiy changing field in Amerischools traditionally took the ca 'today. There have been more attitude that the parent must not interfere in the operation of the changes in education in the school. Policy making was com-pletely in the hands of the last ten years than there were in the first 50 years of this pastor, or principal, or both. century. But the philosophy of Catholic education still insists If Catholic education is to that God is the source and survive in the years ahead, it center of all knowledge, that is imperative that we return to man has an eternal destiny and the first principle of responsi-bility in education. This is not that moral and spiritual considerations should rightfully be

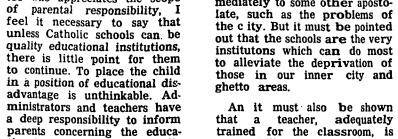
woven into all of the educa-tional fabric. an attempt to forecast and unchanging role for Catholic education in the future, but it is Catholic education further deto insist that whatever new mands that the home and school forms of education might evolve, should reinforce one another, parents must assume the vital that there should be a personal role in the moral and spiritual involvement of the parents with development of their children. the school, and that this in-volvement should be expressed

There is no disagreement today that children need moral in policy making decisions for the future guidance of Catholic and spiritual values as never before. Mass media communicaeducation. tions inundate everyone with a massive dose of propaganda.

Before the parent can assume

of Catholic schools, their pres-ent and future needs, and the an increased state of excellence in Catholic education. ability of Catholics to maintain In this context it is disturb-

ing to note today the presence of so many religious who seem Until this has been done, it to see little opportunity for would seem premature to gratuan apostolic vocation in the Catholic school classroom, With itously assert that Catholics can no-longer afford a Christian cries of "let's go where the education for their children. action is," some religious seem **Quality Comes First** to feel that the professional preparation they have had as As an educational administrateachers can be transferred imtor who appreciates the scope of parental responsibility, I feel it necessary to say that unless Catholic schools can be mediately to some other aposto-late, such as the problems of



as unskilled as any layman

when it comes to designing non-

(Continued on Page 5)

MONSIGNOR ROCHE "---parents must assume a vital role . . ."

**CLIP** and **SAVE OFFICE OF** THE DIOCESAN SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

50 CHESTNUT STREET • ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14604 Area Code 716 454-4525

Jgust 25, 7961

|   | a massive dose of propaganda.          | Before the parent can assume           | <b>.</b>   |
|---|--|--|------------|
|   | A vague kind of materialistic          | this responsibility in a positive      |            |
|   | humanism is taught with such           | manner, he must be much more           |            |
|   | strident insistence that the pur-      | fully informed about the nature        | 1          |
|   | suit of the good life becomes a        | of Catholic education, and he          |            |
|   | feverish concern for material          | must, in the last analysis, make       | 1          |
|   | goods. In this context, I think        | the decision as to whether or          | · •        |
|   | we must assert the need for            | not he wants his child in a            |            |
|   | Catholic education is greater in       | Catholic school.                       | :          |
|   | 1967 than it was in 1867.              | The free and propost is that           |            |
|   |  | The fearsome prospect is that          |            |
|   | The post- conciliar Church             |  |            |
|   | will undoubtedly develop new           | this decision-making policy to         |            |
|   |  | a sufficient extent, and that          | l I        |
|   | • A3                                   | Catholic schools will be allowed       | t i        |
|   |  | to decrease in enrollments by          | •          |
|   | Carra Malana                           | a negative indifference. If we         | <b>і</b> , |
|   | Cover Picture                          | couple this with the wide-spread       | 1.         |
|   |  | assumption, largely unproved,          |            |
| ` | Tabloid cover photo shows              | that Catholic parents can no           | · •        |
|   | Sister Susanna with pupils             | longer afford the advantages of        | 1          |
|   | of St. Ambrose school, Roch-           | a Catholic school for their chil-      |            |
|   | ester, from left, Neil Hout-           | dren, the future of our Catholic       |            |
|   | ers, Anne Skivington, Byron            | schools would be in serious            |            |
|   | Carson, David Aers, Luanne             | jeopardy. Before this happens,         |            |
|   | Acers, Mark DeSanctis, Mary            | serious attempts must be made          | •          |
|   | Dittman.                               | to involve large segments of           |            |
|   | Distant.                               | the Catholic population in an          |            |
|   |  | informed analysis of the state         |            |
|   | ······································ | informed analysis of the state         |            |
|   | School                                 | Enrollment                             |            |
|   | Down 1,9                               | 30 From '66                            | 1          |
|   | Deslindaren errell                     | mont figuron for the fall              | •          |
|   | Preuminary enrou                       | ment figures for the fall              | 1          |
|   | semester of elementary                 | parochial schools in the Dio-          |            |
|   | cese of Rochester show                 | a continued dip in students            | •          |
|   | with 1.940 long student                | s registered than in Septem-           |            |
|   |  | s registered than in beptom            |            |
|   | ber, 1966.                             |  |            |
|   |  |  |            |
|   | High school levels                     | remained almost the same               | l          |
|   | with about 90 fewer stud               | lents in diocesan high schools         | 1          |
|   |  |  | ł          |
|   | than a year ago.                       |  | I.         |
|   |  | 11                                     | 1          |
|   | The two Catholic c                     | olleges continued to show an           |            |
|   | enrollment increase, ho                | wever, with each topping the           | i          |
|   |  | ······································ |            |
|   | 1 200 mark in students                 | •                                      | 1          |
|   | 1,200 mark in students                 |  |            |

The breakdown of figures on the elementary school level showed:

Monroe County parochial schools: 30,856. (Last year's total was 31,709). Schools outside Monroe year's total was 14,143.)

Total elementary school enrollment: 44,012. (Last year's figure was 45,852.)

The high school totals showed:

Monroe County schools: 8,538. (Last year it was 8,478.)

High schools ouside Monroe County: 2,088. (Last year's figure was 2,238.)

Total high school enrollment: 10,626. (Last year, 10,716)

| August                           |             | FIRST SEMESTER  |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---|
| Mon Wed.<br>Thursday             | 28-30<br>31 | Elementary School Principals' Workshop<br>New Teachers' Conference - Elementary |
| September (18 days)<br>Wednesday |             | Opening of Schools (half day sessions first week)                               |
| Friday                           | 8           | Lay Teachers' Day of Recollection at 1:30 P.M.                                  |
| October (21 days)                |             |   |
| Thursday                         | 12          | Columbus Day-Holiday  |
| Mon Fri.                         | 16-20       | · Fall Standardized Tests   |
| November (19 days)               |             |   |
| Wednesday                        |             | Thanksgiving Holiday begins • / /   |
| Monday                           | 27          | Schools Reopen  |
| December (15 days)               | I           |   |
| Thursday                         | 21          | Christmas Holiday begins at 3:00 P.M.   |
| January (22 days)                |             |   |
| Tuesday                          | 2           | Schools Reopen  |
| Thursday                         | 18          | Diocesan Examinations begin   |
|                                  |             | SECOND SEMESTER   |
| January                          |             |   |
| Monday                           | 29          | Second Semester begins  |
| February (19 days)               |             |   |
| Saturday                         | 3           | High School Entrance Exam   |
| Thur Fri.                        | 22-23       | Educational Conference Day & Winter Holiday                                     |
| March (20 days)                  |             |   |
| Monday                           | 4           | Elementary School Registration  |
| Saturday                         | 9           | High School Acceptances Mailed  |
| Monday                           | 18          | Educational Exhibit Day   |
| April (15 days)                  |             |   |
| Wednesday                        | 10          | Easter Holiday begins at 3:00 P.M.  |
| Monday                           | 22          | Schools Reopen  |
| Mon Fri.                         | 22-26       | Spring Standardized Tests   |
| May (21 days)                    |             |   |
| Thursday                         | 30          | Memorial Day-Holiday  |
| Friday                           | 31          | Spring Holiday  |
| June (10 days)                   |             | · · · · · ·   |
| Friday                           | 14          | School Year Closes  |

Final Examination dates to be announced.

