



**VISITING THE SICK.** Bishop Sheen is here shown administering Holy Communion to a patient at Monroe County Hospital assisted by Father Bruce Ammering, hospital chaplain.



**PRIESTLY TRAINING** has been one of the new Bishop's main areas of emphasis. He is shown here receiving a first blessing from one of the young priests he ordained last June.

## Predicts Stronger Catholic Colleges

Flint, Mich. — (NC) — The president of the University of Detroit said Catholic higher education will become stronger than ever as it responds to the challenge of Vatican Council II.

Father Malcolm Carron, S.J., told the First Friday Club of Flint that many laymen and clergy have been unduly alarmed by publicity given to new lay boards of control at such places as the universities of Notre Dame, St. Louis and Detroit. The changes were made in part because of the council mandate to involve laymen more deeply in the administration of Church affairs.

"Some people seem to fear that sharing legal control of these Catholic universities with laymen is tantamount to some kind of a give-away—the beginning of the end for these private institutions," Father Carron admitted.

Father Carron conceded that a few Catholic schools will become secular during the next decade and some will go out of business. "But these few will not be typical," he declared. "On the contrary, the typical Catholic colleges and universities that have had strengths in the past will now become even stronger as they capitalize on the spirit of renewal unleashed by Vatican II."

The council's pronouncements "are having a profound and happy effect upon Catholic higher education," Father Carron stated. He said lay talent will enhance Catholic universities, and that ability will become the only leadership test recognized by progressive Catholic institutions of higher education.

"I am not saying that all the deans, vice presidents and presidents of Catholic colleges and universities will be laymen," he explained. "I am saying that virtually all of these jobs are now open to laymen as well as to clergy. They will be filled competitively, and this friendly competition is creating a very healthy, very vital situation."

Father Carron said the spirit of Vatican II has brought a new "openness" to Catholic universities. He noted, for example, that at the University of Detroit law students are involved in a program to extend legal aid to the poor, while architecture students are examining urban renewal problems facing communities in the Detroit area.

## On Road to Renewal

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especially through his vicars and the Priests' Council.

Besides Father Finks, four other vicars have been given new fields of responsibility.

Fathers Raymond Wahl of Auburn and Bartholomew O'Brien of Horsheads are regional vicars, to provide a closer liaison between Bishop Sheen and the far corners of the Diocese.

Father Wahl heads the Eastern vicariate which includes the counties of Cayuga, Wayne, Seneca, Ontario and Yates. Father O'Brien guides the Southern Vicariate which covers the counties of Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga and Tompkins.

**Vicar for Religious Education** is Father Albert J. Shamon. His job, as outlined by Bishop Sheen, is to "supervise and unify" religious education in the Diocese. His responsibilities touch "wherever the Word of God is taught" in the Diocese: in parochial schools, catechetical centers, Newman Apostolates, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine efforts and the newly formed Adult Education program.

Long range Pastoral Planning is under the care of one of the new Episcopal Vicars, too, Father Joseph W. Dailey. His functions, as outlined by Bishop Sheen, are to make comprehensive surveys looking to pastoral care and projects, which will be submitted to the diocesan pastoral council for consideration and action.

Bishop Sheen has also moved to implement Vatican II's directive to establish Priests' Councils. An elected Priests' Council has been formed here in the past few months to act as a clerical grassroots advisory board for the Bishop.

Bishop Sheen has also moved to increase the age for the reception of Confirmation. The practice in recent years has been to administer this sacrament to children of about 10 or 11 years old. The Bishop has asserted that it would be more helpful if this sacrament of the "lay priesthood" were deferred to later adolescence.

He has also directed a study to be made of a thorough formation program leading to Confirmation.

Bishop Sheen has not only given permission for Masses in the home, but set an example of this practice, offering his first home Mass here in an inner-city residence.

**Apostolate of Presence** While evincing remarkable creativity as an "idea man," the silver-haired prelate has been equally at home as an "action man."

He has popped into a downtown parish on Saturday afternoon to occupy a confessional box as an unmerited helper. He has visited a sizeable portion of his parishes already, plans to hit the rest in the next few months.

You can find him addressing the Rochester Chamber of Commerce one day, and serving soup to knights of the road at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality the next.

He has brought Holy Communion to the elderly at county hospitals, initiated a booming Adult Education program with a three-night stand this summer, and passed out candy to kids at a village store in Wayland.

His world wide vision, sharpened by years as the national director for the American mission program, has not been

diminished by his duties in the Diocese. He's one of the top leaders of the nation's Catholic Bishops' Conference, a member of the international Commission on Missions in Rome and was a personal papal appointee to the recent Bishops' Synod in Vatican City.

He writes off five pieces a week for a nationally syndicated column, and is still producing his popular television series for the national networks.

His first year as a resident bishop has caught the attention of the entire nation. The Bishop's flock is no longer surprised to find their Shepherd featured in Time, Newsweek, the New York Times or the Wall Street Journal.

In fact, the New York Times headline on its August 7 feature on the fast-moving prelate neatly sums up his impact during a remarkable year of action:

"Bishop Sheen's Vitality Startles and Delights Rochester."

### Dr. Meng to Head Newman Group

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — Dr. John J. Meng has been elected president of the board of trustees of the National Newman Foundation, a philanthropic corporation which serves Roman Catholic college students on non-Catholic campuses.

Dr. Meng, executive vice-president of Fordham University, succeeds Andrew P. Maloney, vice-president of Bankers Trust Company of New York City, who has held the post since the foundation was established in 1960.

## This Inner City School For Top Students Only

Philadelphia — (NC) — Talented youngsters in Philadelphia's inner-city will have a new incentive to excel in school work this year with the opening of a special inter-parish school for children of above-average intelligence.

The new school will enroll approximately 100 students this year—the top 10% of the pupils in the fourth, fifth and sixth grades of Our Lady of Mercy, Our Lady of the Holy Souls, Most Precious Blood and Gesu parishes.

The inter-parish center will open in three classrooms of Our Lady of Mercy School and will expand in future years—if successful — to a fourth-to-eighth grade program.

The school will be staffed by two Sisters of St. Joseph holding masters' degrees in education and by one lay teacher. Subjects will be taught on a departmental basis—with each of the teachers directing each of the three classes in different areas of specialization.

The curriculum sounds ordinary enough — but it will be designed to offer a challenge to students who have leadership potential.

Msgr. Martin J. McDonough, pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Church, said, "Our idea was to have an inter-parish accelerated school to push the quicker

learners and to pull the slower learners."

Sister Felicitas, school supervisor for the Sisters of St. Joseph, said that the students will be involved in an upgraded reading program—to enable them to develop at their own pace and to give them an incentive to succeed.

She noted that the Philadelphia Board of Education has asked to observe the progress of the school in order to initiate a similar program for the inner-city schools or to share the present program.

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