

# The Catholic COURIER

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

Journal

Vol. 79 No. 14

Page Five

Friday, January 5, 1968



"WE'RE RIGHT HERE." Home on leave this week, Father Thomas O'Brien sketched a map of Bolivia at the Courier-Journal office, to show location of the Rochester priests.



A DOCTOR AND NURSE treat a young patient in the state-supported clinic located in the San Jose Obrero section entrusted to the Rochester Diocesan Mission.

## Big Boost For Bolivian Mission

Bishop Sheen gave Rochester's tiny mission in Bolivia a big boost this week, appointing a third priest to join the two who have been there for 16 months.

"Big boost" is the right phrase, for the new mission volunteer is Father Paul Freemesser, who packs more than 260 pounds on a 6 ft. 2 in. frame.

The 34-year-old priest was ordained in 1959, has served three parishes of the diocese as assistant pastor. His most recent assignment has been at St. John the Evangelist Church on Humboldt St. in Rochester.

Bishop Sheen made the appointment after conferring with Father Thomas O'Brien, one of the two diocesan priests already in Bolivia. Father O'Brien flew home before Christmas to report for himself and Father Peter Deckman, both located in the San Jose Obrero section of La Paz, capital of Bolivia.

Fathers O'Brien and Deckman were chosen from a group of priests who volunteered early in 1966 to pioneer a mission project for the Diocese of Rochester in Bolivia.

The diocese has also sent a group of Sisters of St. Joseph to Brazil (the diocese of Jatal in the state of Goias) and another group of Sisters of Mercy to Chile (in the archdiocese of Santiago).

Father Freemesser expects to leave for Bolivia in about six weeks.

### What will he find there?

Bolivia, for a big nation, is not too heavily populated. Its barren highlands and thick jungles support some four million people, 75 per cent of whom are Indians. The land has rich deposits of tin and petroleum, but these have not been developed enough to bring any general measure of prosperity.

La Paz, the capital, has some 600,000 residents, and is growing as more and more Indians desert the fruitless "Altiplano" (the high plain) in hopes of finding better living in the capital.

### Language First

Father Freemesser will follow the steps of his two confreres in Bolivia by spending his first few months boning up on Spanish and Aymara, the Indian dialect which most of his new parishioners use. He'll get this at the Maryknoll Language

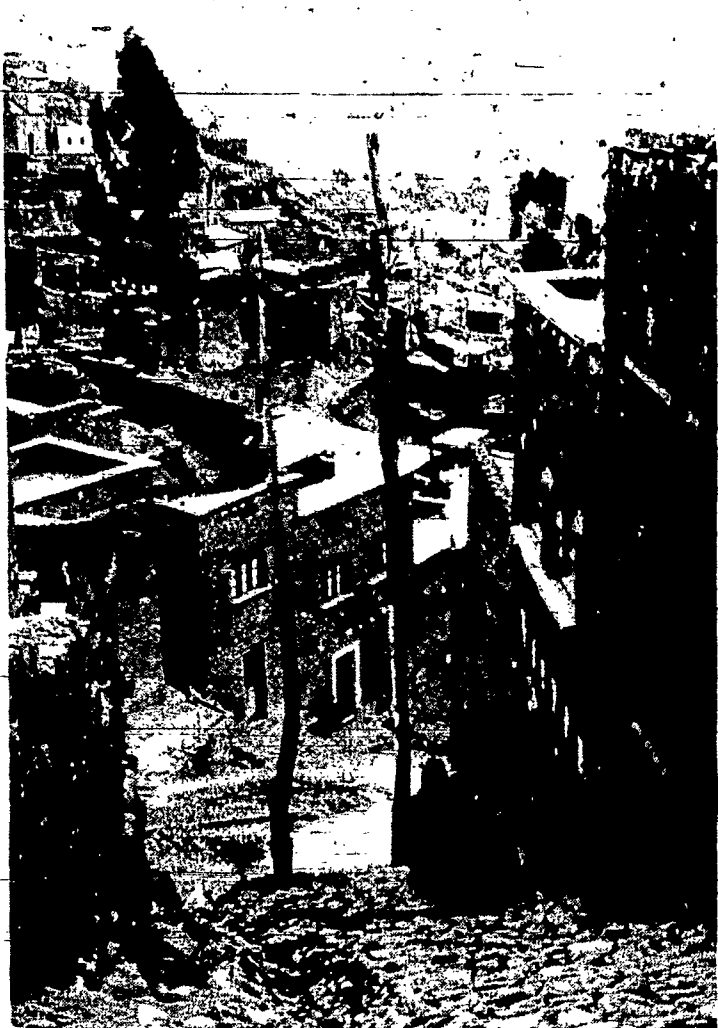
Institute at Cochabamba, Bolivia.

(After Fathers Deckman and O'Brien finished their language stint, they worked under the guidance of veteran Maryknoll missionaries for six months. Father Deckman saw duty in the town of Huarina in the Altiplano; Father O'Brien worked in the outskirts of La Paz, the San Pedro area.)

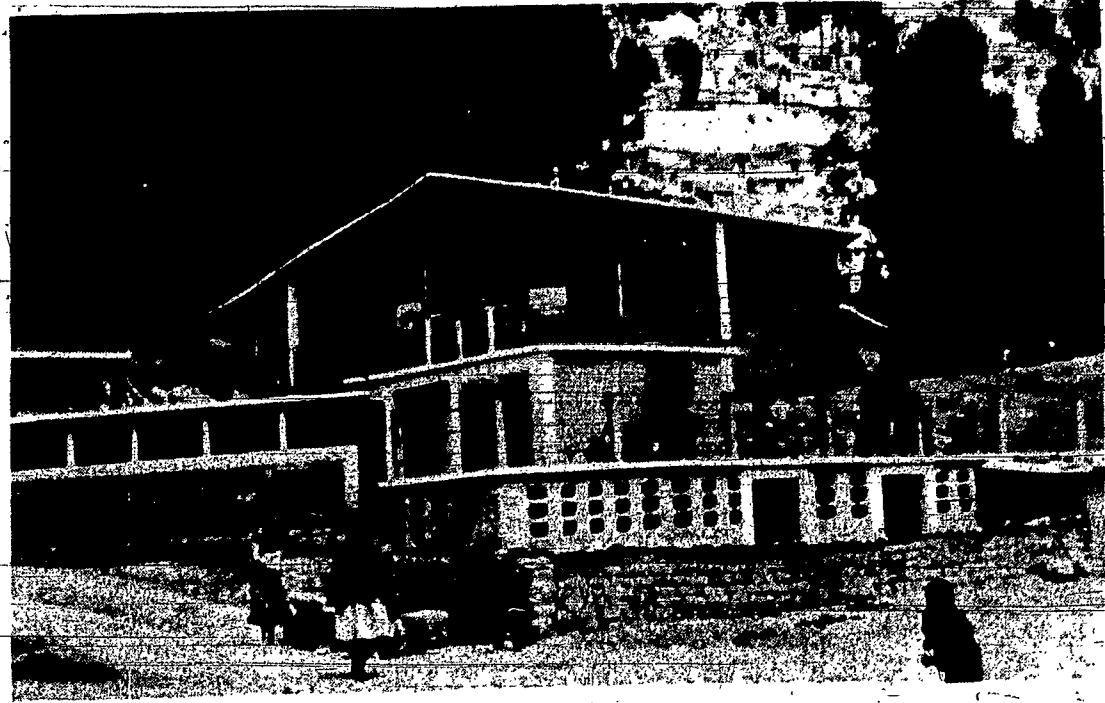
When his language stint is over, Father Freemesser will join the other two Rochesterians in their mission area of San Jose Obrero.

He will not find a traditional parish operation in the poverty-stricken outskirts of the capital. Nor do the Rochester priests want it that way.

There is a small adobe church in the area, as well as a medical clinic located in a new building originally built as a city library. The whole area perches a bit perilously on the side of a high hill, covering a six-by-eight block section.



STEEP, STEEP STREETS are a feature of the outlying area of La Paz in which the Rochester Mission is located.



BUILT AS A LIBRARY, this recently constructed building has been turned over to the Rochester priests to meet more acute needs as a medical clinic.

Altogether, there are about 30,000 people in the area, living in difficult conditions. Most houses have no running water (they share a few scattered water taps), are poorly lighted. The unemployment rate is high, first later in the year.

### First Ray of Hope

An initial effort has been a cooperative brick factory, which Father O'Brien has helped to plan. The land has been secured, a group of 35 residents have worked on the initial plans, and they hope to start building this year.

The CIMA Cooperative Limited needs about \$25,000 capital to get underway, Father O'Brien stated this week, and he is hoping that the people of the Rochester Diocese will help launch this first sign of hope in their area.

Donations for the cooperative can be forwarded to Father O'Brien through his Rochester home address: 223 Colebrook Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14617.

Further information is available by writing him in Bolivia: Father Tomas O'Brien, Castilla 4814, La Paz, Bolivia.

In strengthening Rochester's commitment to the Bolivian mission, Bishop Sheen indicated that, if at all possible, Rochester will try to send a fourth priest later in the year.

Noting the general problems of vocation shortages, the Bishop added: "If we send vocations to the mission, I'm sure that more vocations will come to us."

## Adult Theology: Winter

The Winter session of the Adult Theology program will get underway January 15 and run through February 22 in Victor, Seneca Falls and Rochester centers.

Capuchin Father Leopold Protomastro, director of the program, reports that over 1,000 adults registered for the Fall session which ran from Sept. 25 to Nov. 16.

Fees are \$6.00 for one course and \$9.00 for two. No credits are given, nor will any exams, homework or recitation be required.

The three centers and the courses being offered at each are as follows:

**Victor**—St. Patrick's School of Religion  
Thursdays, Jan. 18-Feb. 22

"The Church: Sign of the Times" (7:30 p.m.) Father Albert Shamon.

"The Life of Man with God" (7:30 p.m.) Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM Cap.

"The Commandments in Christian Life" (9 p.m.) Father Cyprian Rosen, OFM Cap.

**Seneca Falls**—St. Patrick's School  
Mondays, Jan. 15-Feb. 19

"A Look at Christian Origins" (7:30 p.m.) Father Sebastian Falcone, OFM Cap.

"The Commandments in Christian Life" (9 p.m.) Father Cyprian Rosen, OFM Cap.

"The Life of Man with God" (9 p.m.) Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM Cap.

**Rochester**—Nazareth Academy  
Tuesdays, Jan. 16-Feb. 20

"The Fourth Gospel: Meaning and Message" (7:30 p.m.) Father Sebastian Falcone, OFM Cap.

"Christian Service To God in the World: Part I" (7:30 p.m.) Father Patrick Logan.

"The Life of Man with God" (9 p.m.) Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM Cap.

"The Commandments in Christian Morality" (9 p.m.) Father Cyprian Rosen, OFM Cap.

### To Register by Mail

—for the Adult Theology Program, use form below, sending name, address and fees to:

ADULT THEOLOGY  
CAPUCHIN FATHERS  
BOX 231  
GENEVA, N.Y. 14456

Name .....

Address .....

City .....

Phone .....

Parish .....

Location of Course .....

Course(s) .....

## Doctor Caccamise Returns to India

A Rochester ophthalmologist, Dr. William C. Caccamise, was aboard the round-the-world Pan-Am flight leaving New York City on January 3. Dr. Caccamise, however, is not a tourist: he is a man with a purpose.

His destination is India where he will set up an All-India Free Eye Clinic in the Medical Mission Sisters of Philadelphia's Holy Family Hospital situated in Patna, Bihar, India.

For the sixth time Dr. Caccamise returns to Holy Family Hospital to conduct his intensive two-month long clinic, working closely with indigenous personnel and a resident doctor, Dr. Edward Hicks, from the University School of Medicine. Dr. Caccamise checks over 100 post-operative patients during ward rounds, sees on an average of 135 out-patients in the morning clinics and does 15 operations daily, six days a week.

When asked if this routine is not "excessive," he brightens with sheer pleasure and shoots back, "I am used to a tremendous work load. I want to be swamped. And in 'our' hospital in Patna the 100% cooperation of the team makes it possible for me to work to full capacity for two solid months. It's grand. When I was last there, in 1966, I saw over 3,900 out-patients, did close to 600 cataracts and about 65 other eye operations.

"With the assistance of the resident (I took one for the first time in '66) I can do so much more than before. After a week or so he will be a very capable young man — then he can do routine eye surgery while

I see the clinic patients. I prefer to see them all myself since it takes a bit more experience and a background knowledge of the 'eye-situation' in India to decide what patients need surgery the most. I'm always especially concerned about the patient with only one eye. Also, many of them travel for hundreds of miles to see the 'bara-doctor' (big doctor) and I think it's only right that I don't disappoint them... even when I can do nothing for them. One old

man asked me to take out one of his eyes and give it to his blind daughter... It's terrific... can't be compared with the States."

Dr. Caccamise's clinic has become a bi-annual event that draws thousands to the Medical Mission Sisters' 200-bed general hospital in Northeast India. For many in the crowds that begin to line outside the hospital as early as 5:00 a.m. each morning, his coming means healthy eyes

after many years of pain or discomfort — for others it means sight restored. Dr. Caccamise performed the first cornea transplant in India in 1959. He notes with genuine pride that this transplant had "quite a bit to do with the new legislation making it possible for Indians to donate their eyes and with the establishment of an eye bank in the area."

Dr. Caccamise resides at 12 Pittsford Hill Lane in Pittsford.



Dr. Caccamise greets patients at clinic in India.

## Family Rosary Radio Leaders

The Family Rosary for Peace program is broadcast each evening at 7 p.m. by Rochester radio station WSAV, WMBQ-FM in Auburn, television cable companies Channel 5 in Hornell, Channel 6 in Auburn, Channel 8 in Elmira and 88.75 mc. in Corning. Those who will lead in recitation of the Rosary this week will be:

Friday, Jan. 5—Ernest Mueller, Holy Rosary, accompanied by the Kolping Society.

Saturday, Jan. 6—Mass will be celebrated.

Sunday, Jan. 7—Fred Imo, Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Monday, Jan. 8—James Ljol, Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Tuesday, Jan. 9—Leo Zeller, Holy Family.

Wednesday, Jan. 10—Representative of Holy Ghost Men's Club.

# A GREAT



## TALENT

Comes to:

Rochester, N.Y.

# BILL GRAHAM

Direct from Lake Placid's Ski Resorts and Top Florida Night Spots. One of the Top 10 Single entertainers in the country. Take a "one man band" array of instruments (piano, organ, maraca, cymbal, bongos) and add a pleasing baritone voice, a wide variety of musical styles, long experience and instant recall of hundreds of popular songs. That is the formula for musical success followed by . . .

## BILL GRAHAM

—APPEARING NITELY—

9 P.M. 'til 2 A.M.

IN OUR COCKTAIL LOUNGE

—STILL PLAYING—

And Being Enjoyed More

Than Ever . . . . .

The VERY Popular

JOE CADY 7-Piece Orchestra

PLAYING NITELY 9:30 P.M. TIL 1:30 A.M.

# Rund's

"the house of good food"

2851 W. HENRIETTA RD.

473-3891

CLOSED MONDAYS