

Talk by Bishop Opens Adult Theology Program

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen opened the fall session of the Diocese's Adult Theology Program with a Sept. 24 lecture on the Old Testament to more than 230 persons at St. Agnes High School.

The bishop heads a list of 14 teachers and many other lecturers who are presenting classes in Rochester, Elmira, Auburn and Geneva. More than 1,000 persons are enrolled in the program. The Sex Education courses in Rochester and Elmira enrolled more than 250 and it is estimated that at least 125 COD teachers are taking advantage of the advanced training courses being offered.

Father Leopold Protomastro, O.F.M. Cap., co-director of the program, said that "the offering in Elmira of a course on the contemporary religious novel and on the great non-Christian religions, and in Rochester, courses on the Church in the Modern World and the Church and the City evidence the attempt to understand Christianity within the context of the down-to-earth world in which we live.

"Without such efforts, the teaching of abstract or theoretic truth could easily lead to isolation for the Christian. In this light, one aspect of the program assumes great importance: coming together of persons of different backgrounds and mentalities. The resulting dialogue often brings about a deeper awareness of what religion means for the individual.

"We cannot underestimate the good resulting from the continual and close meetings of the teachers and the listeners. Religion can never be presented in the spirit of Christ unless it be related to the reality of life as it is lived."

"Though the program has begun," Father Leopold said, "it is still possible to enroll for the remaining lectures, at any place where the courses are being offered, on the night of the classes."

Bishops' Support Urged for CEF Political Action

By J. K. O'LOANE

Cleveland — "The Catholic Bishops of the U.S. should back the political action of Citizens for Educational Freedom," Bishop Raymond Gallagher of Lafayette, Ind., president of the National Catholic Educational Association, told the national convention of Citizens for Educational Freedom last weekend in Lakewood, a suburb.

Bishop Gallagher's basic position was anticipated by Dr. John Vanden Berg, dean of Calvin College, and chairman of CEF's National Board. Keynoting the convention, he emphasized the crucial question: "Is government support for the education of all children, including non-public school children, good for the United States? A special task force of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce says yes."

"Freedom's Crisis in Non-Public Schools" is shown in Michigan by a decline in the number of pupils from 361,000 to 330,000 since 1964, said Stuart Hubbell of Grand Rapids. In the current school year nine inner city schools have closed in Detroit alone. Loss of freedom of choice for these children has been accompanied by a corresponding rise of \$18,000,000 in educational taxes.

Loss of the inner city schools was deemed especially unfortunate by the Rev. Lucius Walker, Jr., a black minister, and director of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization. He agreed with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce task force on education that inner city non-public schools often give the black child the only reasonable alternative to an inert and inept public school monopoly.

In the past CEF has won nearly all its gains through legislation. The inclusion of non-public school children in Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 was due principally to CEF. (In Rochester this has been bringing in about \$300 per child each year of federal money for all inner city children.)

New Book Devotes Chapter To Bishop Sheen, Diocese

Rochester's Bishop Fulton J. Sheen and the diocese he heads rate a full chapter's coverage in a new book, Douglas Roche's *The Catholic Revolution*, fresh off the press.

Author Roche, a Canadian newspaperman, takes a penetrating look at the Catholic Church nearly three years after the closing of Vatican Council II. The book even carries a lately written chapter on the early impact of Pope Paul VI's now famous encyclical, "Humanae Vitae."

Bishop Sheen was chosen by Roche as an example of a prelate attempting to apply the blueprint of Vatican III for renewal in a particular diocese. Rochester's new bishop moved so quickly in the opening months of his administration, that he made the front cover of Ramparts magazine under the title of "Left Wing Catholics."

Catholics of the diocese will find Roche's fast-moving rundown of the first 18 months of Bishop Sheen in Rochester an intriguing story. All the headline stories are summarized: the creation of the various vicars, the metamorphosis of St. Andrew's Seminary into King's Preparatory, the bishop's appeal to President Johnson to withdraw U.S. forces from Vietnam, the hotly debated donation of St. Bridget's parish property for slum housing, and others.

While Douglas Roche has a sharp scalpel for many leading Catholic dignitaries in *The Catholic Revolution*, his evaluation of Bishop Sheen is friendly and enthusiastic. A few excerpts from the Rochester chapter indicate the author's approbation:

"In every action he took (Bishop Sheen revealed an intense commitment to conciliar thought as formulated in the sixteen Council documents."

"The evidence is present to support the view that Sheen, deeply affected by the impact of Vatican II, is that rare development — a charismatic ecclesiastic."

"The (Bishop) Sheen impact on contemporary Rochester is one of the beacons of the post-conciliar age."

Roche's chapter headings give an insight into the treatment given each topic. For example: "Nuns: Minds of their own." Or "Youth: The big turn-off."

For a well-written and sophisticated overview of today's Church, it would be hard to top Douglas Roche's work. (*The Catholic Revolution*; McKay, New York; 1968; \$8.50)

—Father Robert Kanka

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Plans for the 40th anniversary celebration of Our Lady of Good Counsel parish are presented to the pastor, Father Paul Wohlrab, by the arrangements committee, from the left, Arthur D'Angelo, Mrs. Gerald Shannon and Arthur Wischmeyer.

Church to Note Anniversary

Our Lady of Good Counsel parish will mark its 40th anniversary Sunday, Oct. 6, with a full week of religious and social events involving the whole community.

Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey will offer the anniversary Mass of thanksgiving at 5 p.m. this Sunday. Two days of eucharistic renewal will begin at the 12:30 Mass on Sunday and continue through Monday evening.

Marian devotions on Tuesday and Wednesday will center around a travelling statue of Our Lady of Fatima to be brought to the parish by Father Patrick Moore of the Scarborough Missionary Fathers.

A dinner dance at the Party House on Behan Road Saturday evening will welcome all present and former parishioners. Tickets may be obtained from Arthur D'Angelo at 235-1062 before Oct. 7.

Bishop James E. Kearney will be the principal speaker at the banquet. Many priests who have served the parish as assistants in past years will attend to greet their friends.

A parish history book and a pictorial directory of present members of the parish will be presented at the banquet.

Medical Auxiliary Plans Benefit Show

The Auxiliary to the Monroe County Medical Society will present its annual Health Careers Scholarship Benefit at Nazareth College's Fine Arts Building Wednesday, Oct. 9. Autumn fashions from Sibley's will be unveiled there at two performances, 11:30 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Since 1948, the auxiliary has provided over \$30,000 for 114 full or partial scholarships to qualified students pursuing health careers. This year 9 area students were assisted.

Since 1955, the auxiliary has sponsored Health Career Clubs

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