

Laymen Helped to Strengthen Faith of the Diocese

(Continued from Page 61A)
Joseph and Francis Cuddy of Auburn.

Harold Coleman and Theodore Houck organized the still-vibrant Daily Mass League to encourage attendance at daily Mass, "the golden hour" of each day. Bishop Kearney arranged for official Vatican approval of the League and bolstered its appeal with special indulgences for active members.

Another well-known and colorful organization is the Knights of St. John, many of whose units have won honors for their precision drills. Behind the pagantry is a wide area of service to members and to Church projects. Leaders of the Knights of St. John have included Louis Ernst, Frederick Wegman, Joseph Weiss and Frank Biel, previously mentioned as a recipient of the title Knight of the Holy Sepulchre.

The Holy Name Society, although not now as active as in past years, once could draw thousands to pack Rochester Red Wings baseball stadium for

spectacular displays of Catholic piety and solidarity. Two of its outstanding organizers were Frank Wolfe and B. Edward Shirsinger. Flowering from the Holy Name Society was the still-active Nocturnal Adoration Society among whose leaders are Urban Kress and Robert Kalb.

In a different sphere of Christian activity — service to our needy neighbors — Arthur Farren and Thomas Seahill have logged countless hours at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality to feed and clothe Rochester's homeless men.

For more official and diversified service to the needy, Catholic Charities has a staff of recognized competent lay people such as George W. Montgomery, Jr., Miss Catherine D'Olier, Miss Mary FitzGerald, Harold Crowley, William Mulcahy, Otto Schults, Miss Helen Costello, and in other diocesan agencies or organizations to serve the sick, the needy, the sorrowful and Miss Lurille Donke, Miss Mary (Mollie) Scanlon, Mrs. Ronald McDonald, Mrs. Donald McConville, Mrs. John

Foley and, as benefactors to many institutions — Mrs. Sarah McCort Ward and J. Adam Krag.

Laymen prominent in their professions, particularly those in some way especially affecting the Church, are such architects as Leo Ribson and Edward Lorscheider, who designed scores of churches, schools and other edifices. David Shearer, well-known Rochester attorney, served the Diocese for decades in countless legal cases and Judge Daniel Donahue of Chemung County Family Court provided similar guidance for southern tier parishes.

Cornelius Milliken, Elmira newspaperman, won respect for his Church not just by his outstanding role as citizen and journalist but as an indefatigable worker in numerous church activities.

Interest in the younger generation has held the attention of Clarence Dekman and Louis A. Langie through the program of the Boy Scouts of America; William T. Nolan, the Catholic Youth Organization, and Don

C. Manning, a counselor for boys at Industry.

At the present time, Dr. John Dessauer of Xerox Corporation aids the Diocese with his business insights, and Herman Walz and Ernest Curran are active in autonomous laymen's activities, part of the contemporary initiative and maturity of the Catholic laity.

Still another aspect of spiritual activity for laymen is the retreat movement — centered at Notre Dame Retreat House overlooking Canandaigua Lake and at the Cenacle Retreat House on East Avenue, Rochester. The retreat movement counts among early vigorous promoters William Wynn, Charles Tucker, Frank Wolfe, Elmer Bloomer, James P. B. Duffy and, more recently, Martin Q. Moll.

Mrs. Margaret Muchard gave up a business career to establish and operate St. Martin de Porres Center in the heart of Rochester's Negro and Puerto Rican ghetto and two medical men, Dr. Paul Lalonde, a dentist, and Dr. Paul Caccamise, an eye sur-

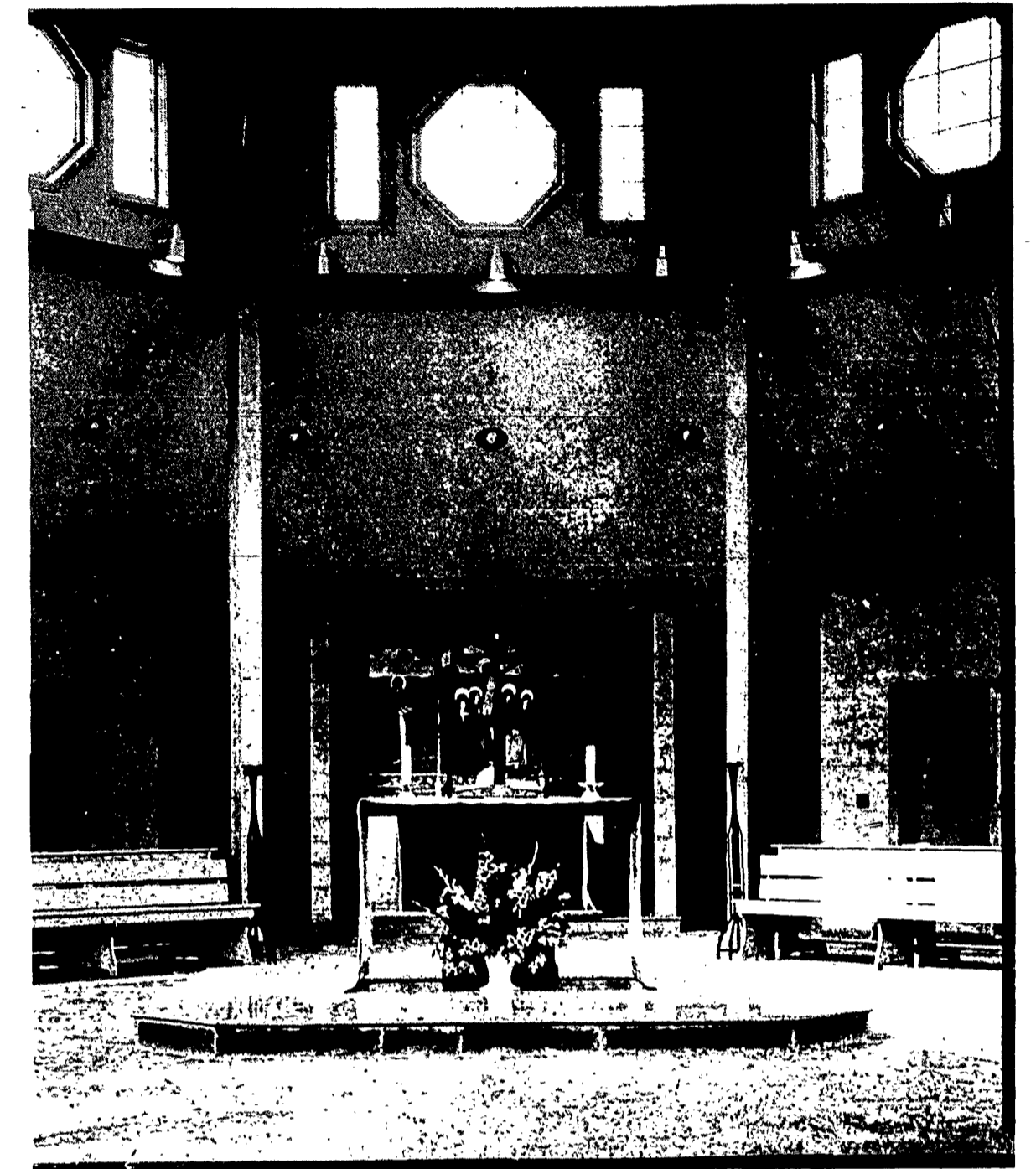
geon, have established and operated clinics, one in Africa, the other in India.

Bishop Sheen recently announced his plan to organize a diocesan laymen's advisory Council, people who prove their faith in service and loyalty to the Church. This brief outline of what lay people have done for the Church in this Diocese during the past century is strong evidence that their faith has been proved over and over again, even before the sixth Bishop of Rochester arrived.

And for every lay person listed in this article, there is, as in St. John's vision at the throne of God, "a great throng which no one could count" of men, women and youngsters of every parish and every organization, who are convinced that God's kingdom comes not just through prayer, necessary as it is, but also through sacrifice and continued hard work. It is on the shoulders of these giants of faith that the Diocese of Rochester has come to its present happy vantage point.

Prayer

The future, as has the past, of the Diocese of Rochester will depend on the Grace of God showered on clergy and people. Two "powerhouses of prayer" constantly petitioning for Divine favor on the Diocese are the Convent of the Dominican Nuns of the Perpetual Rosary in Elmira (below) and Mt. Saviour Monastery in Pine City near Elmira. The general public is invited to share the liturgy with the Benedictines at their chapel (right).



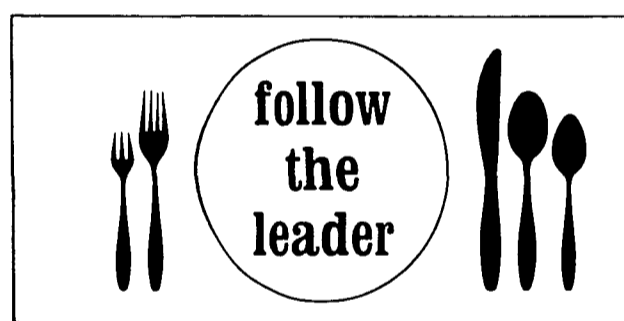
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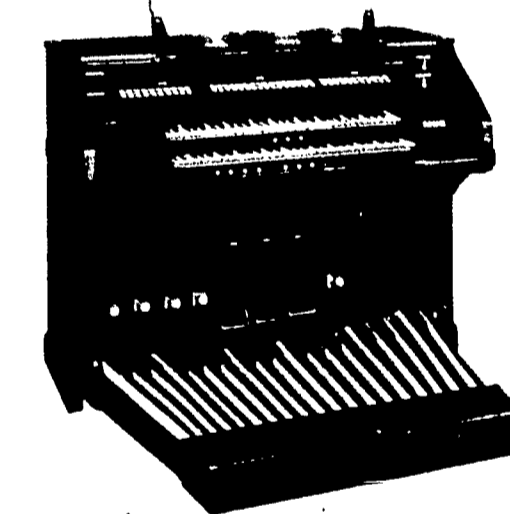


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