

Newark State School

Spirit of Hope for Residents

By ALEX MacDONALD

Newark State School held Open House last weekend to show its efforts to enrich the spiritual and intellectual life of most of its 2,700 retarded residents.

Visitors who inspected classrooms and students' displays in the Assembly Hall and stayed for Mass with some 300 Catholic residents of all ages went home believing that the retarded here have found new hope for mind and spirit never dreamed of 10 years ago.

A program framed around the slogan, "The 4th R: Reaching Our Residents with Religion," demonstrated that religious education according to mental capacities, participation in divine worship and administration of the sacraments, have brought comfort to both residents and to their families outside.

Father E. Charles Bauer, chaplain of some 1,700 Catholic residents, ranging from infants to elderly men and women, offers Mass three times weekly in the wards for those who cannot come on Sunday to the community Mass in the Assembly Hall.

An attractive sanctuary with paneled walls and gracious appointments, all made by the residents, is recessed in the wall of the hall which also serves as gymnasium and meeting place for the entire complex.

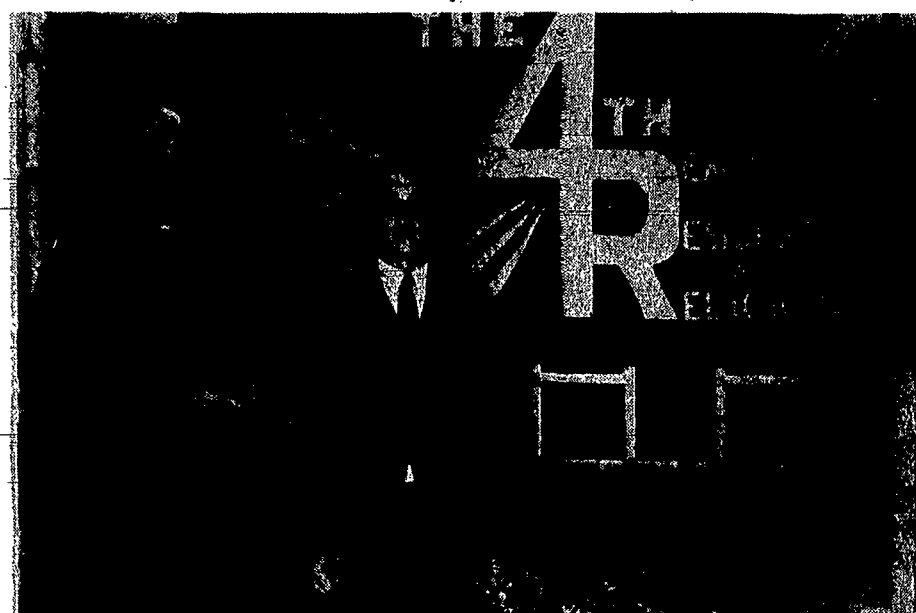
"The evaluation of the spiritual capabilities of each new patient is important to the resident's happiness and progress," Father Bauer said. "Counseling and religious instruction, as well as the educational program the school offers, is much fuller than many outsiders appreciate."

John Thomas, education director for the school, added: "Two-thirds of the residents here are trainable. We use terms like 'educable' and 'trainable' to distinguish how far the learning growth may go.

"Parents who place their children, or even adults, with the school may have much higher hopes for their return to the family or even to a job than they ever knew before. It's possible that 10 years from now no residents in institutions like this will be called 'vegetables'."

Mr. Thomas, a teacher at the school for 18 years, directs a staff of 42 instructional teachers who work with the residents in small groups in some 30 teaching areas.

Father Bauer's religion teachers



Father E. Charles Bauer, chaplain of Newark State School, chats with Glen Mosca, one of school's residents who served Father Bauer's Mass climaxing "open house" at institution May 3. Sign in background highlights open house theme: "The 4th R: Reaching Our Residents with Religion."

number 25 volunteers from the school and the Newark area directed by Stanley Fleischer. Last year they taught 353 classes for the residents.

The Mass sermon warmly personal and partly dialogue is always scaled to the intellectual level of the congregation. Father Bauer asked questions, got quick one and two word answers from all corners of his congregation.

His homily theme was the open house in which all had shared that day. Holding up a giant red paper heart over the pulpit, he opened it to show the word "Love" printed in large white letters.

"When you open your hearts by being nice to someone, it always shows love," he told the retarded residents. Asking everyone to recall a song used in recent school amateur show, he added: "open your hearts to let the sun shine out, not just when we have visitors here, like today, but to everybody everyday."

Father Joseph M. McDonnell, pastor of St. Michael's Church, Newark, was present to assist Father Bauer at Communion time. Sixteen altar servers, all residents, shared the ceremonies.

Dr. Andrew Giudarelli, an active volunteer in the Catholic program at

the school, was lector. Mrs. Florence Case was the organist and Mr. Fleischer directed the singing. Congregational participation in the community prayers of the Mass and the singing was alert, enthusiastic and almost universal.

2 Latin Masses Scheduled at Greece Church

Two Latin Masses — the first at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, May 11, the second at the same hour Sunday, June 8 — will be celebrated at St. Charles Borromeo Church, Greece, according to Father L. John Hedges, pastor.

Featuring the Masses will be the men's and boys' choir, under the direction of George Geibel. He listed music as follows:

Introit, psalm tone; Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei, from Missa Liturgica by Gruender; Offertory, Per Singulos Dies, from Te Deum of Flor Peters; Communion, O Bone Jesu, from Palestrina; Recessional, Cantate Domino, from d'Indy.



Rev. P. Frederick Helfrich, one of new deacons ordained at public ceremony in St. John the Evangelist's Church, Greece, gives Communion to four multiple sclerosis patients with whom he has been associated in volunteer "field work" in community while pursuing his studies for priesthood. They attended his ordination as tribute to him.

23 Ordained to Diaconate

Twenty-three students of St. Bernard's Seminary were ordained to the diaconate by Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey in a public ceremony Saturday evening, May 3, in St. John the Evangelist's Church, Greece.

Four of the deacons were ordained for service in the Rochester Diocese. They are:

Peter T. Bayer, whose home parish is Corpus Christi; Donald J. Curtis, of St. Michael's Church; P. Frederick Helfrich, of St. John the Evangelist's Church, Spencerport; Robert J. Hoffman, of St. Alphonsus Church, Auburn.

The other 19 were ordained for other dioceses, including eight for Syracuse, three for Hartford, two for Providence, two for St. Petersburg, one each for Rockville Centre, Norwich and Orlando, and one for the Order of Friars Minor, Capuchin.

The ritual began after the gospel when each alb-robed seminarian knelt before the Bishop to promise "respect and obedience" to his ordinary. Then, again separately, each presented himself to the Bishop to receive symbolically the gospel book.

Following prostration of the candidates, each again knelt before the Bishop to be ordained by imposition of the Bishop's hands on his head and a prayer of consecration.

One of the prayers was from I Timothy (4:12-14): "Make yourself an example in speech and behavior... devote your attention to the public reading of the Scriptures, to exhortation and to teaching... do not neglect the spiritual endowment which was given you through the laying on of hands."

A deacon is commissioned to preach the gospel, baptize, administer Communion, perform certain blessings, and at times to officiate at weddings and funerals. Particularly since Vatican II Council, some laymen are receiving this major order.

As with most of the St. Bernard's students today, the deacons have been engaged in volunteer work in parishes and with various organizations and agencies in the community. They assist in parish work each weekend.

One of them, Frederick Helfrich, has been working with multiple sclerosis patients through the Al Sigi Center and the Monroe Community Hospital. In tribute to the friendships he has developed with them, four of the wheel-chair patients were brought to the ordination ceremony and received Holy Communion from their deacon friend.

Bishop Sheen To Continue 'Adult' Talks

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen will continue his discussion of "Tenets of Faith" in the second in a series of three lectures at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, at Nazareth Academy, Lake Avenue.

The talks are part of the Adult Theology Program now under way at Nazareth. Other adult courses are in progress in Geneva, Canandaigua, Hammondsport-Bath, and Wayland.

Bishop Sheen's final lecture in the Rochester series is slated at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 27. In his opening address April 29, the Bishop said:

"Faith gives substance to our hope, and makes us certain of the realities we do not see... Faith is lost by pride, and recovered through humility."

No man, the Bishop declared, "is born an atheist; skepticism is acquired."

The Bishop's presentation reminded many of his listeners of his television series format. Garbed in cassock and skull-cap, he moved to various spots on the stage and walked several times to the blackboard on which he had chalked various points of his talk.

Bishop to Help Couples Celebrate Anniversaries

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen will offer Mass for all couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversaries during 1969 at 5 p.m. Sunday, June 29, in Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Couples who are celebrating anniversaries beyond their 50th also are invited.

Those wishing an invitation to attend the Mass, and to receive a memento of the occasion from Bishop Sheen, are advised to contact the diocesan Family Life Bureau, 34 Monica St., Rochester 14619 (716/235-6658).



Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey ordains one of 23 St. Bernard's Seminary students to diaconate. At his left is Rev. Joseph T. Brennan, rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, and at his right Father Edward A. Zimmer, dean of students.

Two Area Men to Join Priesthood on May 17

Two young men of Irondequoit and Pittsford parishes will be ordained to the priesthood at 12 noon on Saturday, May 17, in St. Thomas the Apostle Church, St. Paul Boulevard, by Archbishop Thomas A. Donellan of Atlanta, Ga.

They are: Father John A. Lawrence, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Lawrence, 4716 St. Paul Blvd., Irondequoit and Father James H. Sextone, son of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Sextone, 8 Brook Road, Pittsford.

Both priests will serve in the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Archbishop Donellan will celebrate the Ordination Mass. He will be assisted in the ceremonies by students of St. Bernard's. The music will be sung by St. Bernard's Choir, William R. Ferris, director, and David E. Fedor, organist.

Father Lawrence studied at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries, and is completing his theology at St. John Vianney Seminary, East Aurora, N.Y.

He will celebrate his first Mass at 12:15 p.m. Sunday, May 18, in St. Thomas Church. Concelebrants will include the Very Rev. August B. Fichter, of Jasper, Ind., uncle of the ordinand; Father James Schwartz, assistant at St. Theodore's Church,



Fr. Lawrence Fr. Sextone

Gates, and Father Raymond Horan of Atlanta. A reception will follow in the school hall.

Father Sextone, a native of Pittsford, studied at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries, transferring to the Atlanta Archdiocese in 1966. Since September he has been serving as a deacon at Immaculate Conception Church, Rochester.

He will celebrate his first Mass at 5 p.m. Sunday, May 18, in St. Louis Church, Pittsford. Concelebrants will include Fathers John A. Redington, Robert F. McNamara, Louis J. Hoffman, Robert G. Kreckel, P. David Finks, Paul J. Gibbons, John D. Dillon and James F. Scherer. Father Scherer, secretary of Catholic Social Services, Atlanta, will preach the homily. A reception will follow in the school hall.

Sacred Heart Academy Bought for \$525,000

The Religious of the Sacred Heart announced Tuesday the sale of their property at 8 Prings St., the Academy of the Sacred Heart.

The Rochester Academy is one of eight similar schools conducted by the Religious of the Sacred Heart in New York Province. The Religious also will give up the operation of their school in Grosse Pointe, Mich., in June.

In announcing the latter decision, Sister Coakley, Provincial, stated: "Our desire is to continue in the field of the independent school with fine teachers, excellent academic programs, and improved facilities, to exercise educational and social leadership in communities where the schools are located."

"We believe we can do this only if we realize our resources in new ventures, Manhattanville College and the six schools."

The Academy will close in June of this year. The decision to close the

114-year-old school was made by the Religious in December 1967, after more than two years of serious study and consultation. Since that time officials of the Province of the Religious of the Sacred Heart have been negotiating for the sale of the property.

The seven acres with the school buildings have been purchased by Dr. John C. Dengler for \$525,000. The purchaser plans to open a home for the elderly on the property. Dr. Dengler intends to preserve the school chapel as it is now and as much as is practical of the present buildings.

The Sisters currently operating the school have all been given new assignments for the coming year.

Both Sister Alice McDonnell, superior of the Convent and Sister Ruth Whalen, principal, expressed the deep regret of the religious community at leaving the many parents, alumnae and friends who have been so closely connected with the convent through the years.

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