

Laity Disapprove Holyday Changes

Diocesan laity have voted against changes in the legislation now governing holydays, according to the first summary of parish figures released this week by the Pastoral office.

Slightly over 56 per cent of the 28,359 ballots so far returned to the parishes have urged the American Bishops to make "NO Change" in the present dates and obligations of the five holidays under discussion.

The vote was 16,029 for NO Change and 12,330 for Some Change.

In a separate balloting, parish priests and Sisters voted more

strongly for change than for no change. Contradicting the laity's views, about 77 per cent of the 257 votes from clergy and Sisters urged changes in the laws.

Treating the individual days of obligation, more people voted to leave the January 1 feast unchanged than for any other holiday.

The suggestion to remove the obligation of attendance at Mass on the feasts of the Assumption (Aug. 15) and All Saints (Nov. 1) received nearly 5,000 votes apiece. About 9,200 people voted to move the observance of these two feasts to the nearest Sunday.

Notre Dame In Elmira to Stay Open

Elmira. — Despite financial problems, Notre Dame High School here will open next month.

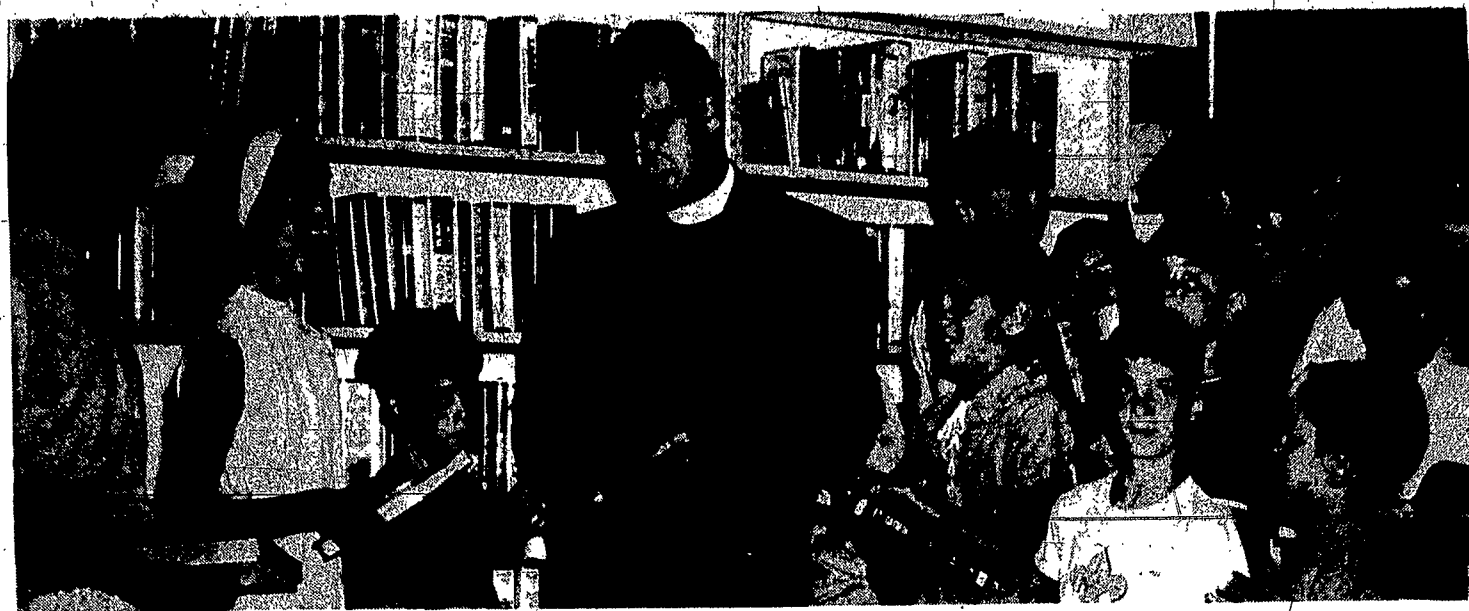
Sister Patricia Donovan, RSM., principal, admits the school is facing a financial predicament, but contends that the situation is "no more desperate" than the money woes confronting many public schools.

Basically, Notre Dame's problem is an operating deficit averaging \$30,000 yearly. The Sisters of Mercy of the Rochester Diocese have provided these funds, but feel that the extra money should come from "consumers" in the area.

To date a fund-raising campaign has totaled cash and pledges of \$7,700. Target date for raising \$30,000 has been scheduled for February, 1970.

An increase in enrollment would help the school, Sister Patricia pointed out. Last semester's enrollment was 570, while the school can handle 650 to 700 students.

Last year's enrollment, she noted, saved the area taxpayers more than \$380,000.



"WOOD" BE READERS—Father George S. Wood, pastor of Our Mother of Sorrows Church, Greece, chats with area children Monday at opening of new Greece Town Library Branch in former 109-year-old parish church building on Paddy Hill which will be preserved as historic landmark. Immediately to Father Wood's right and left are (from left) Patty Henshaw, 8th grader at Our Mother of Sorrows School; Karen Boughton, also a OMS 8th grader; Brian Henshaw, OMS 2nd grader, and John Liberator, 5th grader at Greece English Village School.

Greece Church Becomes Library

The 109-year-old former Our Mother of Sorrows Church building on Paddy Hill in Greece was formally converted this week from a liturgical past to a literary future.

The exterior of the bell-towered

red brick structure will be preserved as a historic landmark. The interior, however, has been radically altered from a former church seating 285 persons to a modern library with a 25,000-book capacity.

In ribbon-cutting ceremonies Monday the building was dedicated as a Greece Town Library Branch. Preservation of the edifice was assured when the parish priest leased it to the town for 20 years at a \$1,200 annual rent.

More than 200 children, as well as many adults (including priests and nuns) flocked into the building Monday to view its book-lined shelves. Hundreds of books were registered out that day.

The new library will serve thousands of persons in the fast-growing Rochester suburb, including pupils of a nearby public high school and grammar school, as well as those of Our Mother of Sorrows School.

Adjacent to the former church— which with its hill-eminence, towers above the new Our Mother of Sorrows church-school-rectory — convent buildings—is a country-style parish cemetery which also is being preserved for its decades-old Irish history.

Present for the library-opening ceremonies were priests and nuns of Our Mother of Sorrows Church and others from nearby parishes, Greece town officials, and Edward Ribson, Rochester architect who designed the renovation.

The Greece parish was established in 1829, and the preserved office was dedicated by Bishop John Timon of Buffalo in 1860. The tower bell was blessed in 1875 by the first Ordinary of the Rochester Diocese, Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid.

Avon Church 100 Years Old

Avon — Parishioners of St. Agnes Church will mark a 100th milestone in parish history on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 15-16.

They will commemorate the laying of the cornerstone of the present church building on Aug. 15, 1869, at which Rochester's first Ordinary, Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, officiated.

Father Henry A. Atwell, pastor, said former pastors and assistants will attend a special Mass at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15. A "church birthday picnic" is slated for parishioners on the following Saturday afternoon.

St. Agnes was incorporated as a parish in 1866. It now has a church, school, convent and rectory.

CCD to Conduct Training Program

The office for the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine will conduct a special training program in the use of Argus' "Choose Life Program" for Monroe County High School catechists, Sunday, Sept. 7, at St. John the Evangelist's Church, Humboldt Street.

The session will last from 2:30-8:30 p.m. and is open to 200 registrants. A fee of \$2 will be charged.

COURIER-JOURNAL

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Aquinas Hikes Tuition; Begins Renovation Plan

Tuition at Aquinas Institute will be \$450 for the 1969-70 school year, and the "all-regents" standard will be relaxed to permit development of more diverse studies, Father Leon G. Hart announced Wednesday.

It is expected that the school will open Sept. 3 with a completely refurbished interior, after a summer spent on the first half of a major renovation program.

The board of trustees, at a meeting last week, authorized the \$50,000 increase in view of current operating expenses. The board also accepted the faculty's position "that as an all-regents school, Aquinas is severely limited in its ability to tailor a course of study to a student's interests, goals and ability." Father Hart explained that the regents courses and examinations would be continued but not required for all students.

The principal pointed out that the tuition rise was not related to the expense of overhauling the building.

Interior repairs were undertaken by means of a bank loan, he said, to enable the Basilian Fathers to "meet our commitments to the students and their parents."

He noted that on Nov. 1 Aquinas Stadium would be debt free. The \$500,000 debt has cost \$38,000 a year since 1950, and that amount is more than enough to carry the renovation loan, he said.

This summer's work included complete rewiring, with installation of modern lighting fixtures, and replacement of the 44-year-old wooden floors with vinyl tile.

There are lockers in the halls, instead of the old classroom closets. The old desks were ripped out and sold, and colorful fiber glass and metal furniture takes their place. Ceilings and walls have been sprayed with white and off-white paint. The windows will be replaced before winter with aluminum framed windows designed to cut heat loss and prevent rain and snow from leaking in.



INTERIOR DECORATORS—Father Leon Hart, CSB., principal of Aquinas Institute, gets help of students in refurbishing Dewey Avenue high school's interior. Pictured helping earn their tuition for coming school year are (from left) Tom Major, sophomore, and two seniors, John Daniels and John Toscano.

Equality Begins at Home For Family

By JOHN DASH

(For the past three weeks, the Courier-Journal has run pictures and stories on three children. These children are desperately looking for a home. They are the children of Negro and Caucasian couples, and are now under the care of the Catholic Family Center.)

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Camp have seven children ages 3½-10. Six of their children are white. A year ago, they adopted Mary, a child whose parents are Negro and Caucasian.

What prompted you to adopt a child, when you already had a rather substantial family; and why did you bring a mixed-race child into your all white family?

"Our first idea came from the

Courier announcement several years ago that homes were needed for black children. My husband and I discussed it; and we both thought it would be a good idea.

"When it comes to a thing like this, somehow you just don't think about the size of your family. You know that you can always make room for one more.

"We definitely wanted our children to be brought up in an equal society, not in an isolated one."

What was the reaction of your own children to the new member of the family?

"We discussed it with them and said 'It's up to you. You are the ones who will have to face any problems in the future; and you are the ones

who will have to make it work.' One of the older boys said that it was a tough decision; but they all wanted to do it."

What was the reaction of your neighbors toward the new member of the family?

"They were all different. Some were skeptical, and some said: 'It's wonderful, but our family really couldn't do it.'"

"A young couple came over the other night. When the girl saw Mary, she said 'You have such a large family and you have time to babysit too.' 'Oh, no, Mary's our child,' I said. 'I don't babysit for her.' 'Why, that's wonderful,' she said.

"As far as the reaction of neighbor children, there must be 15 of them in our backyard every afternoon."

What benefit is there for the black child to grow up in an all-white milieu?

"None. We don't want Mary to grow up in an all-white society. And, don't want our other children to grow up in an all white society either. That's the reason that we moved from a farm in Marion into the city. And that's why we are now sending them to No. 2 School."

Would you encourage other white families to do as you have done, to bring a black or a mixed-race child into their homes?

"I can't see any drawbacks to it." Any diocesan couple concerned about children and society is invited to write: Miss Catherine E. Wobus, Catholic Family Center, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604; phone: (716) 546-7220.

'Shift Gears and Move,' Priests' Meeting Told

Priests of the Rochester Diocese "must shift gears and move decisively on vital issues facing the world today," according to the new chairman of the Priests Association of Rochester.

Father John G. Skvorak, chairman, said members of the PAR have mandated "a new direction" for sermon topics and parish projects.

This, he explained, is away from "routine, self-perpetuating" local parish programs and toward efforts to aid in "the survival of our planet, our nation and our worldwide church."

Listed among "vital issues" for "study, sermons and action," the priest said, are moral aspects of the continued escalation of the arms race, as exemplified in the still controversial antiballistic missile system, and the moral rights of the American citizen to "selective conscientious objection" in a specific war such as Vietnam.

Association members also intend,

Father Skvorak stated, to aid Father John J. Hempel, Diocesan Director for Human Concern, in his efforts to ease racial tensions and poverty conditions in the diocese.

Members hope, he added, to find remedies for the "increasing rate of evaporation and exodus" of religious vocations of priests and nuns, and "how to build a bridge over the generation gap" which divides older and younger clergy as well as older and younger generations in the pews.

The "mandate" for the new direction, Father Skvorak said, came at a meeting earlier this summer of the 15-member coordinating board of the PAR, an organization of 150 of the more than 350 priests of the diocese.

Other Association officers are Father Joseph P. Brennan and Father Raymond Booth. Five committees have been named to implement the program. They are headed by Fathers Brennan, Henry Atwell, Daniel Tomney, David Callan and James Russell.

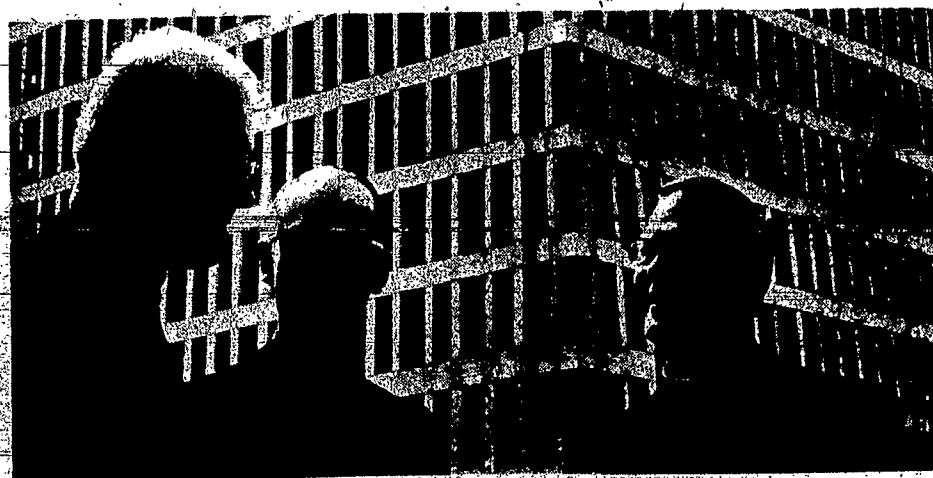
Homeless



ROBERT Robert is a sturdy, bright boy looking for a home.

Now in a foster home under the care of the Catholic Family Center, Robert is described as very advanced for his age. The child of a Negro and Caucasian couple, he has deep brown eyes and rich black skin.

Any couple in the diocese interested in making Robert a member of their family are invited to write: Miss Catherine Wobus, Catholic Family Center, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y., 14604; phone: (716) 546-7220.



"PRIESTS IN THE MARKET-PLACE" might be an appropriate title for new officers of Priests Association of Rochester, shown conferring beneath city's newest skyscraper, 30-story Marine Midland building. They are (from left) Fathers Joseph G. Brennan, John G. Skvorak and Raymond Booth.

SPECIAL FEATURE TODAY THRU SUNDAY, AUG. 17

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