

The Cenacle and the Age of Renewal

By ARTHUR P. FARREN

There's a new and very ecumenical "open door" policy in effect at the Sisters of the Cenacle House at 693 East Ave. in Rochester.

Last weekend, as an instance, was pretty much a "Presbyterian Weekend."

Twenty-one ninth graders of Third Presbyterian Church had a Friday overnight and Saturday conference of preparation for confirmation membership in their church, and on Sunday more than a dozen elders of Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church had a day-long session preparing their program for the coming year.

It's all part of a new policy at the retreat house. In years past the Sisters confined themselves to providing retreats for Catholic groups. Such retreats continue, but the work of the Sisters has broadened considerably in their efforts to be of service to the entire community.

"Our door is open," reads a Cenacle flyer, "to you, your friends, your groups or organizations, for renewal, recollection, prayer, dialogue and sharing. Whether for an hour, a morning, afternoon, day or evening — or for several days or a weekend, you are welcome at the Cenacle."

As an instance, last month the Cenacle was the "meeting place," for days and some overnights, of retreats, a film seminar, a cursillo, an ecumenical prayer group, an Alcoholics Anonymous group, days and evenings of recollection, homemakers, business women, youth groups, some blind persons, ministers, senior citizens, Sisters and couples.

Also included were gatherings of



AT CENACLE TEA — Pictured at tea last Sunday afternoon at Sisters of the Cenacle House in East Avenue, Rochester, are (from left): Sister Hoyt, Cenacle superior; Bishop Hogan; Sister Mary Hanley of Boston, Cenacle Sisters' Northeast Province provincial on one of her frequent visits to Rochester; Rochester Mayor Stephen May, and Edward Moran, chairman of forthcoming fund drive for renovation of Cenacle house. Tea signalled opening of fund campaign.

Southeast Area Churches youth leaders, a Nazareth and St. John Fisher College seminar, an urban education workshop, a Presbyterian high schoolers' retreat and a meeting of health workers of the Genesee Health Association.

Variety spices the Cenacle calendar for February, which will include weekend retreats for women from Sacred Heart Cathedral (Jan. 30 and 31 and Feb. 1) and St. Margaret Mary Church (Feb. 20-21-22); a retreat for priests from Aquinas Institute (Feb. 13-17), and retreats for groups from the Baptist Temple, University of

Rochester students, and Roberts Wesleyan College students.

Also scheduled is a series of adult education courses during Lent; days of renewal for various parish groups; a "day of motivation" for inner city children; a National Council of Catholic Women's leadership course; a new program of "days of renewal" for CCD teachers, and a conference of the staff of Asbury First Methodist Church.

Capacity at the Cenacle for overnight groups ranges between 35 and 45. Thousands of persons have made retreats or days of recollection there

since it was opened in 1948. Staffing the House are 16 Sisters of Our Lady of the Retreat in the Cenacle. Two other Cenacle Sisters who reside there are in outside work — one as fulltime chaplain assistant at the University of Rochester and another doing parttime inner city work.

Friends of the Cenacle currently are mounting a campaign for funds to renovate the older part of the structure — the 30-room mansion which was willed to the diocese in 1948 by the late Mrs. Cora Conway Todd. Addition of a wing was made in 1957 following a fund drive.



PRESBYTERIANS AT CENACLE — "Open Door" policy of Cenacle House in Rochester was signalled last weekend by two groups. UPPER PHOTO — Teenagers of Third Presbyterian Church, at Friday (overnight) and Saturday program, are pictured during poster making session. In background are Rev. Robert McClure, youth minister of the church, and Sister Lill of Cenacle. LOWER PHOTO — Group of elders of Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church met in day-long session at Cenacle on Sunday to plan coming year's program.



Pre-Cana Conferences To Begin Next Month

Pre-Cana Conferences — a four-part once-weekly course for engaged couples — will begin next month in Rochester, Canandaigua and Elmira.

Conferences for couples in the Rochester area are scheduled on Sundays or on Fridays. All will be conducted at St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall, 69 Whitney St.

The Sunday series is slated on Feb. 1, 8, 15 and 22. Couples may select

any one of three conferences on those days — at 3, 5:30 or 8 p.m. The Friday course, to begin at 8 p.m., is scheduled for Feb. 13, 20 and 27 and Mar. 6.

Conferences will be conducted in St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua, at 7 p.m. on Feb. 1, 8, 15 and 22.

The Elmira course, to be held in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, is slated at 8 p.m. on Feb. 15 and 22 and on Mar. 1 and 8.

COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

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Key to Unity Is Love -- Bp. Hogan

Bishop Hogan told congregations at two Christian Unity services last Sunday that "the only thing that will unite us is love and the gift of charity in Christ Jesus."

The Bishop was principal speaker at an afternoon service in Sacred Heart Cathedral and an evening service in First Presbyterian Church, Pittsford. They marked the close of the annual Christian Unity Octave.

Highlighting the program at the Cathedral, which was sponsored by churches affiliated with the Northwest Ecumenical Ministry, was the signing of a "covenant" for community action by lay representatives of the churches and the NEM-associated Area Youth Ministry.

Regretting "our divisions," Bishop Hogan declared that "we've traveled a long road in ecumenism — but we have a long way to go."

Ecumenical action will become more meaningful, he said, when Christians of all faiths put less emphasis on doctrinal differences and more on "the social message of the Gospel." He stressed this point by quoting the Lord's sermon — "Amen I say to you, as long as you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for me."

One of the reasons, the Bishop suggested, that youth has "turned off" the older generation is that "many adults have been mouthing the good news of the Gospel and living the bad news of hypocrisy." They also have been "keeping their mouths open and their ears closed."

Many Christians, he added, "for too long have been striking their breasts and admitting 'through my



BISHOP GUEST AT PITTSFORD UNITY SERVICE — Bishop Hogan was guest at unity service sponsored last Sunday evening by Pittsford Ecumenical Lay Council in First Presbyterian Church there. He is pictured with Rev. Richard L. Kesel, senior minister of host church.

fault, through my most grievous fault," but neglected to follow this with "a firm purpose of amendment."

He pleaded with the congregations for more personal prayer and meditation. "Listen to God," he urged, "try for a more personal union with the Risen Christ, without Whom there is nothing."

Explaining the covenant signing at the Cathedral, Father John S. Hayes, Cathedral rector, described it as "an expression of cooperative harmony in the Unity Octave Week" and "a concern by the churches for more common interest in the welfare of their neighborhoods."

The Rev. Charles Taylor, senior minister of Dewey Avenue Presby-

terian and co-chairman with Father Hayes of the NEM clergy committee, briefly outlined the aims and purposes of the NEM.

Music featured the combined choirs of Northwest churches, under the direction of William Ferris, Cathedral organist.

Host for the unity service at the Pittsford church was the Pittsford Ecumenical Lay Council. Its membership includes St. Louis Catholic Church and five other area congregations.

Unity services similar to those in Rochester and Pittsford were held during Unity Octave Week in Catholic and other churches in communities throughout the diocese.

Webster University of Life Catholics Play Big Role In Ecumenical Program

Catholics are playing an increasingly important role in the University of Life Program, a Webster ecumenical venture sponsored by the Webster Council of Churches and the St. Rita's, St. Paul's, Holy Trinity, and Holy Spirit parishes.

The program consists of three Sunday evening meetings, offering fellowship, music, art, drama, and discussions, all centered around a contemporary theme.

The public is invited Feb. 1, 8, and 15, at the United Presbyterian Church in Webster. A buffet is scheduled at 5:30 p.m., the chapel hour at 6:30, and a choice of three courses of study beginning at 7:35 p.m.

Featured as keynote speaker on Feb. 1 is Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM. Cap. He is co-director of the Adult Education Program for the Rochester Diocese and Newman chaplain at Hobart and William Smith colleges. He also lectures at St. Bernard's Seminary.

The 1970 program theme is "The Church and the Unconventional."

The first member of a Catholic parish ever to head a University of Life planning committee is Mrs. Neil Mahoney, a graduate of Mercy High School, she earned her B.S. in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation at the State University College at Brockport. She has taught in Gates-

Chill, and at R. L. Thomas High School in Webster. For the past four years, she has been teaching an adult education class in Penfield.

At Holy Trinity Church she is active as an adult adviser to the Youth Council and as a member of the CCD Board.

A course entitled "Metropolitan Rochester: Will Christians Shape Its Future?" will include presentations by Sister Barbara Steinwachs and other members of the Joint Office of Urban Ministry. Another course will include personal views related to the theme by three Rochester personalities, Mrs. Mary Grooms, Times-Union columnist, will appear in the first session; William E. Green, of the board of directors of the Rochester Urban League and FIGHT, second session; and Dick Tobias, TV news commentator, the third session.

The chapel hour Feb. 8 will include presentations by the Webster Baptist Choir, directed by Robert Warfield, and by the Holy Trinity Folk Singers, directed by Richard Urban. Readings by Granville Chambers will round out this program coordinated by Sister Anne Messare. Featured Feb. 15 is a drama presentation of Edna St. Vincent Millay's "Aria Da Capo."

In order to defray expenses, a registration fee of \$1.50 per evening or \$4 for the three evenings is payable at the door.

Corning Radio Joins Hookup

A radio hookup already potentially able to reach nearly 80 per cent of the families of the diocese for the nightly Family Rosary for Peace and other diocesan programs will add a new unit this weekend when WCIL-FM, Corning, joins WSAY, Rochester and WMBO-FM, Auburn.

The Corning outlet, to carry the popular rosary program seven nights a week at 7 p.m., claims a 75-mile coverage of radio listeners in its area.

The addition of WCIL-FM, according to Msgr. Joseph Cirincione, director of the Family Rosary and pastor of Rochester's St. Francis of Assisi Church, will enlarge the audience considerably.

"We will be able to cover a wide circle, from Oswego to Syracuse to Binghamton to Olean to Batavia and the whole lake area from Rochester east to Oswego, with its new facility," he said.

The rosary program will mark its 20th year of consecutive evening programs over WSAY and WMBO, Auburn on March 2. Cable television channels in Corning, Elmira and Auburn also carry the devotion.

Bishop James E. Kearney will lead the Rosary and speak on Monday, Feb. 2, the feast of the Blessed Mother's Purification.

Bishop Hogan, speaking directly from his rooms in the diocesan office building, has used the network several times to speak to thousands of dioceses at once. He will be heard again on Saturday, Feb. 7 discussing forthcoming liturgical changes in Sunday worship and on Mar. 2 in an anniversary program.

SPECIAL FEATURE
SUNDAY, FEB. 1 thru FRIDAY, FEB. 6

SURF and TURF

PETITE TENDERLOIN STEAK and BROILED LOBSTER TAIL WITH DRAWN BUTTER

Includes

- BAKED POTATO WITH SOUR CREAM OR BUTTER
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SUNDAY, FEB. 1 thru FRIDAY, FEB. 6

LUNCHEON FEATURE

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Includes Potato, Vegetable, Rolls & Butter

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