

The Name of the Game Is BINGO

It is now more than ten years since the electorate of New York State legalized bingo on a local option basis for charitable reasons at a statewide referendum in November 1967. Since then 705 municipalities have enacted bingo. Of the 1,850 organizations in the State now conducting bingo 829 are run by Catholic churches, schools and related societies. During the last reporting period, October, 1967-September, 1968 these 1,800 organizations reported a net profit of \$30,985,489.

Bingo is being run almost any night somewhere in the Rochester diocese. Typical comments from pastors are, "Without it I would have to close the school"; "It keeps the parish from going into the red"; "It supplements the Sunday collection and permits us to take on additional charitable operations"; "We can buy additional educational equipment for the school"; "It's a life-saver when the back breaking interest on the mortgage comes due"; "We can help the less fortunate with the profit from bingo".

Pictured here are scenes that take place in any of the bingo halls. The games are the same, the rules the same, disbursements of profits all under the same strict enforcement and rigid control and in many cases even the people are the same.

Photographs by Bob Kiger
Christ the King Hall, Rochester, N.Y.



Here they come — within about an hour, hundreds of patrons pass through the admitting lines.



Crew waiting to go to work as crowd waits in background.



"Man,



Keeping track of a few (???) cards.



Peace