



Architect Robert M. ... discusses Rochester's ... ing shortage.

## At Play in the Cities of the Lord

Why would a suburban parish group spend hours "building" an imaginary city? Why would trainers in an urban action course urge their trainees to take a full day out of their busy schedules to play a game? Ah, but is it just a game?

Almost two months ago, 25 key members of Holy Name Parish, Greece, enrolled in an urban action training program conducted by the Office of Human Concern of the Joint Office of Urban Ministry in Rochester.

At its own request, Holy Name is piloting the new multisessional program. Called Foresight Parish Action Training, the program is designed to help a local parish contribute to the building of a more humane society.

The game they played for a full day simulates the building of an imaginary city. Designed by five graduate students in Chicago, who call themselves Urbandyne, the game simulates the interaction of systems operative in an

urban society: employment, education, housing, transportation and industry.

The purpose of the game is to put the players in touch with the complex needs of metropolitan areas. The game serves both as a training field and a testing laboratory, and helps lay the ground work for an honest appraisal of one's potential in answering human needs in a city. It sparks thought of the direct actions an individual can take toward this end.

Holy Name has engaged in eight of these sessions to date. Included in the program are sessions dedicated to listing and categorizing the issues at stake, attending lectures on problems and solutions, investigating the parish's potential and resources, and researching and plotting courses of action.

Further information on the game may be obtained from Urbex Affiliates, 365 Rockingham St., Rochester.



Lively discussion is important to the program. Left, clearing the air over a cup of coffee; above, Sister Mary Joe Langie, RSM., and Father Thomas Red-

dington, pastor of Holy Name Parish, clarify a problem as, right, Rev. Mr. Larry Coppard, of Urbex Affiliates, sheds some light on the point at hand.