



State Senate Candidates to Discuss Issues

State Senate candidates in the 50th District, Thomas Laverne, Howard McGee and Gregory Sampson, will discuss campaign issues at a meeting sponsored by the Men's Club of St. Salome's, Irondequoit, at 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19. Planning session are (from left) John Kukuvka, Donald Stoffel, Joseph Gillen and Father William Swingly, assistant pastor.

Spiritual Renewal 1st Priority Diocesan Priests' Council Told

A diocesan-wide "spiritual renewal" and establishment of the diocesan "pastoral council" are the most important issues for immediate action, the Priests' Council learned from its own Priorities Committee at the October meeting of the Council Oct. 6.

Six projects selected from scores of ideas presented to the Priests' Council in three regional "priorities-presentations" held last Spring in Auburn, Elmira and Rochester were set before the Council, Bishop Hogan and his auxiliaries Bishop Hickey and Bishop Mc Cafferty, to constitute a work-program for the diocese in the near future.

The other priorities were: 3—Expanded Role for the Office of Human Concern; 4—Diocesan Planning Commission with full-time director; 5—Priestly Leadership; 6—Diocesan School Board and Planning Commission.

The spiritual renewal suggestion and steps toward structuring the desired pastoral council were given top-priority by the ad-hoc committee chaired by Father Charles Mulligan, doing graduate work at Cornell University. During the summer they had studied all the lay and clerical proposals of the three priorities meetings. They filtered them further at an open meeting of diocesan priests in Canandaigua on Sept. 30.

The Priorities Committee stated that although many groups in the diocese wanted to see structural changes and organizational reform in parishes and the diocese as a whole, the spiritual renewal of laity and clergy should come first.

"What is needed is not a one-shot affair, a rally or a

wonder weekend," the report said, "but a sustained process aimed at the spiritual renewal of the total person, in his liturgical, apostolic and vocational life."

"A spiritual institute conducted by priests, religious and laity might inaugurate the program," it suggested. A center-house for renewal and the utilization of the personnel and programs of current prayer groups, CFM and cursillo groups was proposed.

The acceleration of the diocesan pastoral council, not by volunteer groups or appointed committees, but by the Priests' Council itself was strongly urged. The Council, being more thoroughly representative of and closer to the mind of all sections of the diocese, is the most appropriate group to choose the structural committee, plan the initial steps and set a target date, the report said.

Peace Mass Draws 1,000 People

The real sowers of peace in these complex times are those "whose life work has been to produce right relationships between man and man", Bishop Hogan told more than 1,000 worshippers at a Mass for Peace arranged by the Legion of Mary in Highland Park last Sunday.

"We have come here to pray for peace," the Bishop said. "We are really asking for the grace to search our hearts to find 'what solution can I offer?'"

He criticized the peace-activists who are "fanatical, bitter and arrogant".

"I am much concerned about activists who do not have the backup of prayer. Those who have a bitter zeal and selfish ambition, and are arrogantly boastful about their opinions, are false to the truth."

The Bishop suggested two major issues for Christian protest: "protest the enormity of expenditures for destruction as contrasted with the funds spent for the alleviation of the climate of poverty and injus-

tice"; and "make war on the public ignorance which labels many conscientious objectors 'draft dodgers and cowards.'"

Lay participants in the liturgy of the Mass included: readers—Richard A. Miller and Albert G. Walz; leaders of Prayers of the Faithful—Mrs. Evilio Perez-Albverne, Thomas Frey, Gerald Barrett, Dr. Robert McLoughlin, John Holmes, Barbara Whittaker and Sister M. Gratia L'Esperance, RSM.

Music for the Mass was led by the augmented Immaculate Conception Parish Choir.

The Bishop revealed that several local groups of laymen had intended to make demonstrations at the Mass if his homily did not please them.

Addressing them, he said, "I invite you to show us the evidence of protest. I wish they would pass among us with their visual aids". There are many issues in the Rochester area and in the nation which need to be called to public attention "to provide us with an examination of conscience", he added.

Human Concern Office Opens Training Program

The diocesan Office of Human Concern this week offered parish groups a training program intended to stimulate community responsibility and develop forms of social action appropriate for their neighborhood or their city.

Originated in Rochester's ecumenical Office of Urban Ministry the project of "parish action training" titled Foresight, asks for "25 key parishioners to commit themselves as a group to work actively to meet contemporary human needs."

Its stated goal is to "help a

parish take seriously its responsibility for insuring social justice in its own community."

Rev. Mr. Larry Coppard, director of Urbex Affiliates, who conceived the program in his Urban Ministry work, explained to pastors that the group-training would cover three phases: Constructing the Frame (what are the needs, issues and resources?); Defining the Action Goal (agreeing on the specific project); Developing the Action Effort (strategy, planning and continuing evaluation).

The course could run several months, he said, requiring at least seven evening sessions and one all-day "gaming session", he said.

"Because each parish has different people, varied abilities and viewpoints," Coppard said, "the course is designed to help the parish conceive its own work for its own problems or its own community's needs. Each parish has the same kind of responsibility for making its neighborhood more livable."

Applications for the program may be sent to Rev. Mr. Coppard at the Office of Human Concern, 841 Genesee St., Rochester.

Father Brennan Speaker

'Near East Peace May Be Near'

Peace in the Near East "may be closer than at any time during the past 20 years," according to Father Joseph P. Brennan, rector of St. Bernard's Seminary.

Father Brennan, recently returned from a four-week tour of Israel, described how "A Christian Looks at Israel" at a meeting Tuesday night in Temple B'rith Kodesh, Elmwood Avenue. He was presented by Rabbi Phillip S. Bernstein.

Speaking of areas occupied by the Israelis since 1947, Father Brennan declared:

"Certainly the visitor to these areas can only be struck by the general air of prosperity, security and over-all calm, and by the

unobtrusiveness and civility of the Israeli administration there.

"The indications are quite clear that the Israeli government is prepared to discuss the future of most of these recently acquired territories, but only as part of over-all, face-to-face negotiations. Whether the weary Egyptians and Jordanians, and the gradually more responsible United States and Soviet governments, will be able now to evolve a settlement acceptable to all remains to be seen."

Referring to the plight of the Palestinian refugees, Father Brennan stated:

"The greatest tragedy is that the governments which provoked their flight have consist-

ently refused to permit any truly creative solution to their problem.

"While the U.S. government has acquiesced uncomplainingly, and the U.S. taxpayer borne the expenses, the refugee camps have been allowed to fester until now they threaten not so much the peace of Israel but that of the Arab States themselves, and that of the rest of the world.

"Pressure from our own government, and that of the U.S.S.R. together with a firm,

long-range policy adopted by all the governments of the Near-Eastern countries, with the financial and technical support of the rest of the world including Israel, would end the refugee problem in a very few years.

"It is still not too late—im tirzu—if there is a will to do it! Peace need not be a dream!"

To be pro-Israel, the priest contended, "does not mean to be anti-Arab." He said that during four trips to the Near East since 1956 he has made friends with both Israelis and Arabs.



Congratulations to Msgr. Eckl on 93rd Birthday

Msgr. George W. Eckl (left), founder and pastor emeritus of St. Andrew's Church, Rochester, receives congratulations from pastor and parishioners following his celebration of Mass Saturday morning, Sept. 26, to mark his 93rd birthday. Oldest priest in the diocese, he still is active. From left are Mrs. Margaret Paul, Altar Society; Anthony Limpert, oldest parishioner; Urban Kress, Nocturnal Adoration Society; Mrs. Nesty Kolupski, Rosary Society; Father Charles J. McCarthy, pastor; Miss Erma D'Argento, Legion of Mary, and Norbert Thibault, Daily Mass League.

Chemung Candidates To Speak on Parochiaid

Elmira — Aspirants for state legislative posts from Chemung County will spell out their stands on state aid to students in non-government schools tomorrow night Oct. 15 here.

Slated for 8 p.m. at Notre Dame High School, the public meeting will feature two candidates for state senator, incumbent William T. Smith (Rep-Cons) and challenger John B. Schamel (Dem-Lib), and two men vying for the state as-

sembly, L. Richard Marshall (Rep-Cons) and his opponent, Democrat-Liberal Samuel Karam.

Dr. Thomas Curran, president of the Chemung County Catholic School Board, which is sponsoring the "speak out" session, will chair the meeting. Bishop John T. McCafferty also will speak at the meeting, to give a preliminary report on possible school consolidation of the seven Catholic elementary schools in Chemung County.