



New officers of the Sisters' Council of the Diocese of Rochester are from left Sister Elizabeth Ann LeValley, recording secretary; Sister Jamesetta Slattery, vice president; Sister Mary Walter Boyle, president; and Sister Mary Brigid Quinn, corresponding secretary-treasurer.

Sisters Council Elects First Slate of Officers

Sister Mary Walter Boyle, associate administrator of St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, has been elected the first president of the Sisters' Council of the diocese.

Other officers are Sister Jamesetta Slattery, director of student services and a counselor at Nazareth College, vice president; Sister Elizabeth Ann LeValley, head of the Theology department at Nazareth Academy, recording secretary; and Sister Mary Brigid Quinn, principal of St. Charles Borromeo parish school, corresponding secretary-treasurer.

Established last September to represent the more than 1,400 Sisters of the Rochester Catholic Diocese, the 28-member council has since met monthly

to formulate their goals and to establish priorities. Sister Mary Walter has been the temporary chairman during that time.

The purpose of the organization as outlined by the council:

1. To enable women religious to cooperate and participate in the policy-making and decision-making processes which affect their lives — in the Church and in society in general.

2. To act as an advisory body to the Bishop of Rochester by establishing channels of communication through legitimate representatives.

3. To provide a channel for inter-community (religious and civic) sharing of personnel, resources, and research on a diocesan level.

4. To provide on a diocesan level opportunities for spiritual and professional enrichment and to provide such other services as will make religious women more effective in their various apostolates.

5. To evaluate and suggest priorities in areas in which women religious are currently involved or could be involved; to assist in future planning of the pastoral ministry.

6. To participate in organizations formed to serve the pastoral ministry when this is deemed mutually beneficial.

High on the list of their priorities is the study of the problems of the Catholic parochial school system; the recommendation to the Bishop of establishing the Diocesan Pastoral Council with adequate representation of sisters not only on the council, but on the committee that will make the choices for the council; the investigation of the formation of a Counseling Service for Sisters and Priests, as well as the establishment of a center for the Sacrament of Penance for sisters and priests.

Of the 17 congregations serving the Rochester Diocese, 14 have representatives on the Council.

New Sisters Council Studies School Report

The Sisters' Council of the diocese will present a formal response to the Diocesan Educational Task Force Report by Feb. 1, Sister Mary Walter Boyle, president of the Council announced this week.

The statement, now in preparation for delivery to Bishop Hogan, represents the opinions of the council as the result of a meeting with Father Leon G. Hart, CSB., associate superintendent of schools, on Jan. 19 at the Cenacle Retreat House.

Although the council will give "general approval" to the report, it felt that the programs offered by the Task Force indicated a long-range plan and did not recommend "specifics" for the immediate needs of the parish schools in the coming year.

During the session with Father Hart, attended by a majority of the council and other Sisters engaged in education and communication, several questions were raised but not answered:

- Can the Catholic school situation be studied divorced from the total parish picture?

• What is the current rationale for maintaining the Catholic school system?

• Is the "salary pool" to be established immediately?

• Has the quality of the parochial schools been investigated?

Among the recommendations that the council will support in their response for Bishop Hogan are the immediate creation of the Interim Diocesan School Board with adequate representation of not only Sisters, but of "educators in the field".

The council will also suggest that there be only one board to study the religious education needs of the diocese, not two.

A committee composed of Sister de Lourdes, Sister Ronald and Sister Maria Lauren, from three different religious communities, is drafting the response for presentation to the Executive Council and the Council members before it is given to the Bishop.

Working Class Problems To Be Studied Jan. 28

Problems of the working class will be probed during an eight-hour "consultation" from 2 to 10 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, at Monroe Community College.

Included on the ad hoc committee planning the session are Father John J. Hempel and Sister Marie Sidoti of the diocesan Office of Human Development and Miss Barbara Steinwachs of Urbex Affiliates Inc.

Guest speaker will be Irving M. Levine, New York City, director of urban planning for the American Jewish Committee, who contends that "such issues as law and order, tax reform, inadequate public education, occupational mobility, personal growth and mental health can be responded to creatively."

Other speakers include Stan Skinner, staff director for the North-East Area Development Corp. of Rochester; John

Haynes, northeast regional program director for the United Machinists and Electricians Union; Joe Duffey, who helped put together a coalition of blue-collar and anti-war voters in Connecticut to win the Democratic nomination to the Senate, and Jules Cohen, director of research and development for the Economic and Manpower Corporation.

ECUMENICAL MEETING AT SACRED HEART

Women from all churches in the Northwest Ecumenical Ministry are invited to a Sacred Heart Cathedral Rosary Guild meeting at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 8, in the rectory hall.

The Rev. Charles Taylor, pastor of Dewey Presbyterian, will speak.

Pre-Cana Conferences Set

Pre-Cana Conferences — a marriage preparation course for engaged couples — will begin next month in three Rochester diocesan communities.

The four-part discussions are sponsored by the Family Life Bureau of the diocesan Department of Adult Education. Director of the bureau is Father Robert L. Collins.

Sessions for the Rochester area will be conducted in St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall, 69 Whitney St. Participants may select any one of three similar conferences on any one of four Sundays. The schedule:

Rochester — Sundays, Feb. 7,

14, 21, 28, St. Francis Hall, 3, 5:30 or 8 p.m. Fridays, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26, St. Francis Hall, 8 p.m.

Canandaigua — Sundays, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, St. Mary's Hall, 7 p.m.

Elmira — Sundays, Feb. 28, Mar. 7, 14, 21, Our Lady of Lourdes Hall, 8 p.m.

Holy Rosary Plans

Mission Benefit

The Divine Word missions in the Philippines will reap the profits from a bake sale scheduled for this weekend at Holy Rosary.

The women of the parish have planned the benefit as a gesture of appreciation toward Father Ray Quetchenbach, SVD. He has been an assistant at Holy Rosary while on leave from the missions to pursue graduate studies at the University of Rochester.

The sale will begin after the 5:30 p.m. Mass Saturday, Jan. 30, and continue after all Masses Sunday. Lillian Blake, 254-0338, will arrange pick-up service for anyone who requests it.

CARDINAL BACCI DIES

Rome — (RNS) — Antonio Cardinal Bacci, famed as the Church's leading Latin scholar, died here Jan. 20 following an illness of several months. He was 85 years old. His death reduces the College of Cardinals to 125.

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