

ITHACA / NEWS

Area

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Sister Clare and a group of her students at Immaculate Conception

Send-Off for Sr. Claire Francis

By ED AND JOAN COFFEY
Ithaca Correspondents

Ithaca — June 6 was "Sister Clare Francis Recognition Day," by proclamation of the mayor of Ithaca.

More than 300 well-wishers gathered at Immaculate Conception Parish Center in the evening, to say goodbye to Sister Clare Francis. After eight years as principal of the parish school, she is leaving to head the new junior high school at St. Patrick's, Elmira.

"Being Christian, we're glad to share with others; but being human, we will do so reluctantly," said Henry Theisen, incoming parish council president.

Dr. Roger Bardwell, superintendent of the Ithaca public schools, spoke of Sister Clare as an educator and administrator in the tradition of Maria Montessori. He said she had created a school with a positive and stimulating atmosphere, while maintaining a delicate balance between discipline and the freedom essential to intellectual growth. This ability, he

First Parish Poll Names New Council

Seneca Falls—Father Lynch, Pastor of St. Patrick's, has announced results of the first parish-wide election for membership in the Parish Council, formed early in 1970.

The names of 18 candidates had been published for three consecutive weeks in the Sunday Bulletin. Expressing gratitude for "the wonderful turnout" of voters, Father Lynch listed these nine winners: Nicholas Midey, Raymond Winthrop, Carl Same, Adolph Gacci, Paul Shaffer, Thomas Marsela, Mrs. Carlo (Frances) Lorenzetti, Angelo Lucchesi, and Louis Hylwa. Their first meeting will be July 6.

The election was held in the school auditorium, with the polls open after the evening Mass on Saturday, June 5 and after all the Masses on Sunday, June 6.

Fathers Day Fete In Scipio Center

Scipio Center — The Ninth annual Father's Day Festival and chicken barbecue will be held on the St. Bernard's Church grounds Sunday, June 20, under the auspices of the Holy Name Society. Serving will be continuous from noon until 5 p.m. Take out service will be available.

The committee is headed by Howard W. Lacey, with Rev. Daniel V. Hogan, pastor, as honorary chairman. They will be assisted by Harold J. Conraty, Richard M. Corey, W. James Rejman and Francis J. McGarry.

Courier-Journal

said, was Sister's particular "genius" as an educator.

Raised in Rochester and a graduate of Nazareth College there, Sister Clare has recently received her Master's degree in Education from the State University in Cortland. At Immaculate Conception, she was instrumental in establishing a school library and a new learning center as well as further developing the departmental teaching concept. With the pastor, Father John S. Maloney,

she helped form the school board and organize an active home-school association.

The program of tribute was opened by Master of Ceremonies James M. Cirona. Father David Gramke, speaking on behalf of Father Maloney, who was ill, expressed the gratitude of the parish for Sister Clare's efforts. John Pearson, president of the school board, presented Sister with a plaque in recognition of her years of service. Mayor Hunna Johns then read his proclamation of "Sister Clare Francis Recognition Day."

In her remarks, Sister Clare attributed any successes she had known to the loyalty, interest, and cooperation of her family, pastor, faculty, and friends, particularly parents, at Immaculate Conception and in the Ithaca community. Her closing words, "God bless you, you'll be in my prayers forever," were answered with a standing ovation.

Ithaca Area Notes

Stanley — A picnic for the young people of St. Theresa's in junior and senior high school was held on Monday evening, June 7. Highlights of the event included a hard-fought baseball game, plenty of rock music—and even more food.

Ithaca — Graduation exercises for the Immaculate Conception Class of 1971 will be held in the church on Thursday, June 17, at 7:30 p.m.

Stanley/Rushville — Rosarians of St. Theresa's and St. Mary's met Wednesday evening, June 9. Special guests were the ladies of the Greek Orthodox Church in Geneva.

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Weedsport Celebrates Father Jones 45th Jubilee

Weedsport — The celebration June 6 of Father Leo A. Jones's 45th anniversary turned into a community tribute to the priest who has been pastor of St. Joseph's Church for 29 years.

More than 50 relatives were on hand, some having come from as far as Ohio, and Ontario, Canada. Following the Thanksgiving Mass, relatives were guests at a dinner served by the Altar and Rosary Society in the parish hall.

At the public reception in the afternoon, fellow clergymen, community representatives and parishioners spoke. The consensus was that Father Jones should be counted as one of the most respected of the townspeople, because of his concern for the whole community and his involvement in numerous community projects.

Born and raised in Rochester, he was ordained at St. Patrick's Cathedral, June 12,

1926. Pastor of St. Joseph's since 1942, he supervised the erection of the church that was dedicated in 1958.

Hornell Couple Marks 58th

Hornell — Mr. and Mrs. Felix Riccardo of East Avenue, members of St. Ann's parish, celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary June 8. They were married in St. Pius V Church in Jamaica, L.I. on June 8, 1813 and came to Hornell in 1971. Both are natives of Italy.

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