

# Chemung County School Program Paces Diocese

(Continued from Page 1B)

continue to attend seventh and eighth grades at St. Mary's.

However, students from Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Casimir's, Ss. Peter and Paul, St. Mary's Southside, St. Cecilia's and St. Anthony's who are in the seventh and eighth grades will go to the new junior high school, located in the school building at St. Patrick's church.

Sister Mary Agnes explained how the new consolidation system will work. "First, all seventh and eighth grade students in Catholic school in Chemung County, with the exception of St. Mary Our Mother, will go to the new junior high school.

"Second, Our Lady of Lourdes will have grades kindergarten through sixth, St. Casimir's will also have kindergarten through sixth. St. Peter and Paul will have classes from grades one through six as will St. Mary's Southside.

"Third, students in grades one through six who had attended or were to be enrolled at St. Patrick's will now go to either St. Casimir's, Our Lady of Lourdes or Ss. Peter and Paul, depending on their home location.

"Fourth, students who had attended or were to be enrolled in grades one through six at St. Cecilia's will now go to Ss. Peter and Paul, since St. Cecilia's school is closed. St. Anthony's school has also been closed and the students in grades one through six will now attend St. Casimir's."

The regional superintendent also said that the consolidation has no effect on Notre Dame High School. "That's a private school and is not involved in the consolidation in any way."

Three school buses have been purchased for the new school system and two routes have been established to transport students to the schools. "Parents are now being notified about transportation and should have some idea about the bus routes within a matter of days," Sister Mary Agnes said.

She also said all teaching positions in the system have been filled with either lay teachers or sisters.

Operating funds for the consolidation will be made by parish assessments.

A problem arose last week dealing with funds for capital improvements or non-recurring expenses in operating the new school system.

The disagreement was basically whether the parishes where the schools are located should pay for the capital improvements, or if the entire school system should share the cost for the non-recurring expenses. It was expected that the matter would be resolved by this week.

Sister Mary Agnes noted that under the new program, school principals will be directly responsible to the Catholic school board, and will no longer be responsible to the pastors where the schools are located.

She said it is anticipated that considerable money will be saved. "Instead of having schools in each parish, we have replaced them with larger schools to handle the students and have also created a junior high school thus relieving the need for seventh and eighth grade teachers in each school."

In a recent church bulletin, Father Francis R. Davis, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes, might have put the consolida-

Courier-Journal

tion into perspective for all those affected by the new changes.

He said, "We are making this change so that our Catholic boys and girls will be able to go to a Catholic school. We are regrouping our forces so that we may continue to have Catholic schools.

"We are doing this with the conviction that the education which our boys and girls receive in our Catholic schools is of great value, not only for them, but also for our country and especially for our Church so that there may be fine lay leaders for God's people."

In summing up her thoughts on the consolidation Sister Mary Agnes said, "Everything is ready to go. All we are waiting for now is Sept. 8."

## Corning Schools Regroup

(Continued from Page 1B)

will attend the new consolidated school.

The school building which had housed pupils at St. Patrick's will be used for CCD classes and other activities.

The names of the two new schools also will be changed. Students from St. Mary's and St. Patrick's will attend Corning Catholic School South, while St. Vincent's pupils will be going to Corning Catholic School North.

Although the names have changed, Father Brennan emphasized that the students living on the southside of the city will now attend classes in St. Mary's school building, while northside students will continue to report to school at St. Vincent's school building.

"The entire program is very complex. We have worked out arrangements with the city for school bus transportation, and they have agreed to transport students from St. Patrick's to the new southside Catholic school," Father Brennan said.

The pastor of St. Mary's said one reason St. Mary's school building was chosen over the St. Patrick's school quarters was the size of the structure.

He also said the reason all Catholic students in the city are not attending one school was primarily because of the location of the three parishes.

"St. Vincent's is on the north side of the city. They will be handling all students in that area. We will be taking care of the students in the southern part of the city," Father Brennan said.

Student enrollment for the two new schools seems to bear out Father Brennan's point about the location. The combined enrollment at Corning Catholic School South will be 300, students, while the pupil population at the North school is expected to top 350.—Dick Baumbach.

### NEWS DEADLINE

A reminder that Courier-Journal news deadline is noon Thursday for the following Wednesday's newspaper.

## Chancellor

(Continued from Page 1B)

the priests of the diocese have their records here along with the diocesan corporate records.

"Curia is a Latin word," he clarified, "meaning a group of people immediately around the bishop who assist in the governing of the diocese.

"The way it's set up in law, the chancellor is an archivist, but in this country it means more than record keeper."

Father Moynihan is the executive arm of the bishop on policy, performing his duties in subordination to the bishop and the auxiliary bishops.

His duties involve everything from canon law to business deals. He is the keeper of the diocesan purse. It is he who grants permission to pastors for spending, borrowing, building and renovating.

It is he who grants the processing of all canonical decisions, such as marriage dispensations, changes in rites, and dispensations from religious vows. All matters dealing with the Holy See have to be processed by him in the bishop's name. Granting permission for clerical retreats, vacations and absences is also listed among his duties.

He oversees the general financial reports of parishes, and must also be alert to stock market quotations.

Father Moynihan described his job best when he said, "This office is the hub of the diocese."

Next Week: The bishop's secretary, Father Michael Conboy.

### SEMINAR

Ithaca — A pre-baptism seminar for new and expecting parents will be conducted at Immaculate Conception on Wednesday evenings, Sept. 12. Details are obtainable from Father David Gramkee.

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