



Kathleen Mahoney and Father Robert Hammond practice, top, the music they are shown using, right, at the first Mass of the Camp Stella Maris retreat. At bottom, Marty Cressman feeds one of the goats his family brought.

Black Caucus Said 'Family Discussion'

New York Times accounts of a recent national meeting of black Catholics stressed militancy and separatism, but the convention's prevailing mood was actually one of brotherhood and unity.

This is the opinion of six black Catholics, all members of Immaculate Conception parish, Rochester, who attended the National Catholic Black Lay Caucus Convention in August at the University of Detroit.

John Holmes, chairman of the New York State Black Lay Catholic Caucus, said of the 1,600 blacks at the meeting: "It was like a family coming together to discuss common goals and problems."

Important resolutions passed at the convention asked for representation of black Catholics on local diocesan decision-making bodies, and in Church

administration on the national level; community control of parochial schools; special programs for black seminarians, and provision in Catholic liturgy for the expression of black culture.

The convention submitted the names of ten black priests as candidates for the position of bishop of the Washington archdiocese, to succeed Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle.

"We want to have a black Ordinary in Washington," Mrs. Betty Marian Anderson explained, "because a black bishop of a predominantly black area would be sensitive to the needs of his people."

"We feel that parents should have a voice in the administration of parochial schools," Mrs. Louise Rodriguez said, "because

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Rap Up Takes To the Hills

TEXT AND PHOTOS
By LAURENCE E. KEEFE

"It takes a priest or a layman who has a lot of camp experience to handle an operation as big as this," said Father Robert Hammond last Sunday as cars rolled up the shady drive of Camp Stella Maris. While he spoke, 14 families complete with children and camping supplies were arriving for the third annual Rap Up Family Encounter retreat which will last a full week, until Friday Sept. 3.

The sheer number of people involved in the family retreat justifies Father Hammond's remark. Logistics for the retreat involve feeding and housing 28 adults and 64 children. Father

Hammond's co-retreat master, Father Robert Collins of the Office of Family Life, had the additional responsibility of providing a series of speakers on spiritual aspects of family life.

Father Hammond, now at St. Michael's parish in Newark, started the family retreat when he was assistant pastor at Holy Trinity in Webster.

"Pretty much the same group of people comes now as when we started," he observed, "except now we have three or four more families, mostly from Newark." The program started when his Religious Education Teachers' Class decided it wanted to go on retreat together.

This year's retreat is the first time Rap Up has lasted an entire week, and the first time that it has been held at Camp Stella Maris. Previous family retreats lasted only a week-end, and were held at the Notre Dame Retreat House overlooking Canandaigua Lake.

Co-chairmen of the retreat this year were Don and Mary Monefeldt, and Joe and June Fox, all of Webster. Fox greeted the retreatant-campers, all wearing home-made name tags, at Stella Maris' main building as they came driving in Sunday afternoon, and directed everyone to their own cabin.

A typical daily program
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Eastern U.S. Basilians Hold Regional Meeting

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan delivered the homily and concelebrated Mass, at St. John Fisher College last Thursday with Basilian priests attending their regional meeting for the eastern United States, which ran from Aug. 23 to 28.

The other main concelebrants were Father William Gibbons, CSB, regional representative for the Basilian Fathers of the eastern United States, and Father Joseph Miller, CSB, superior of Catholic Central High School in Detroit.

The Basilian General Council

came from Toronto to Rochester for the meeting.

For the first time in the history of the Congregation of St. Basil, Basilians in the region were invited instead of delegates being elected.

The regional meeting was not constituted to make decisions, but to discuss the priesthood, prayer, the apostolate and community life.

A General Chapter in 1973
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Making the Diocese Run

Link between Bishops and Priests

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

The priest secretary to the bishop is the channel for information between priests and the bishop.

Father Michael Conboy, 36-year-old native of Auburn, was appointed by Bishop Joseph Hogan as his secretary in December 1969. Father Conboy served as assistant pastor with the bishop when he was pastor at St. Margaret Mary's. "I always enjoyed working with Bishop Hogan," he said. "He is a man very much concerned about the vitality of the Church, and it is a real treat to work with him."

Father Conboy served in three parishes before he became secretary to the bishop, and feels pastoral experience is essential in his present job because it

Each week "making the Diocese Run" will describe one of the key positions in the diocese as well as providing brief interviews with the men serving in these important jobs.

gives him a real feeling of what is going on in parishes.

"All of us in the offices at Chestnut Street do parish work in addition to our appointed positions," Father Conboy explained. "I say Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle on the weekend, and weekdays at St. Margaret Mary's convent. We are still involved in pastoral ministry through our main work is in the office."

The duty that Father Conboy lists as first and most important is praying for the bishop

and the work in the diocese.

The responsibilities of the bishop's secretary span a large range of duties. He is the bishop's personal aide; he arranges the bishop's travel and care for his car; and verifies expenditures for and by the bishop.

A major portion of his job is channeling information to and from priests and bishop. He handles and answers correspondence directed to the bishop. "All mail is given to the bishop's attention," he explained, "but the answering of it is channeled to the departments involved."

It is the secretary's duty also to arrange episcopal appointments and calendar. He aids the bishop and auxiliaries in arranging Confirmation appointments and assisting at them. And he prepares and participates in episcopal ceremonies at Sacred Heart Cathedral and in other places where the bishop celebrates the Sacred Liturgy. He also assists in arrangement of funerals of deceased priests.

He also maintains the records in the Diocesan Clergy book, which contains the curriculum



FATHER MICHAEL CONBOY

vitae, thumb nail sketches, of each priest in the diocese.

Father Conboy describes his work as "an exciting job, there is a lot to do because I am very close to the bishop and there is tremendous opportunity to channel his feelings to priests."

Speakers Bureau Established

"Experts" on such varied topics as "law and order", the Dutch catechism, the drug problem, and child psychology will be available to parishes this fall through the newly established Adult Education Speakers Bureau.

The Bureau, created at the suggestion of the Southern Tier Christian Formation Board, will serve as a "bank" of qualified lecturers and panelists upon whom a parish adult education program may draw.

"I'm looking for speakers in the diocese," reported Father Robert Collins, diocesan director of adult education. In a few weeks, lists of speakers and their topics, enrollment forms and publicity materials will be sent to each parish. Bookings for speakers will be handled through the Adult Education Office.

Father Collins explained that the speaker's fee for each program would be \$40.

"We hope that through the speaker's bureau each parish will be able to sponsor lively and interesting adult education programs, on topics of concern to Catholic adults," Father Collins said.

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