



Mrs. Reedy reassures kindergarteners.

Palmyra School

Determined to Continue

By LAURENCE E. KEEFE

Palmyra — The morning of Wednesday, Sept. 8, Mrs. John Reedy had just gone home from morning Mass to can tomatoes when she got the news that she would be the new principal of St. Anne's parochial school in Palmyra. She had just time to get to school for the first day of classes.

A two-car accident in Webster the night before seriously injured all three Sisters of St. Joseph who administer and teach in the school. St. Anne's School, with an enrollment of 125, was left with two elementary lay teachers and a part-time English teacher for eight grades and kindergarten.

Hospitalized at Rochester General Hospital in the accident were Sister Teresa Gerard Speckgoor, principal and teacher of grades 7-8, with head injuries and a broken arm; Sister Albertine Devereaux, teacher of grades 5-6, with a broken hip; and Sister Marie Clare Keele, teacher of grades 3-4, with a broken arm.

Also injured in the crash on Webster-Fairport Road was Katherine Flynn, cook and housekeeper for the nuns, with two broken legs; and Derwood Adams, driver of the second vehicle, with facial cuts. Sister Teresa was driving the nuns' car.

Despite the loss of the sisters, classes went on at St. Anne's, with the aid of a hastily rounded up contingent of lay and religious personnel.

Facing her newly hired corps of teachers that afternoon, Mrs. Reedy told them, "I shall need all the help you can give me," and they proceeded to make plans for carrying on in the absence of religious teachers.

The impact of the accident was felt by all involved with the school. Mrs. Anita Lynch Austin, formerly teaching Eng-



Mrs. Reedy thanks Sister Jamesine Riley, SSJ, for her help in getting St. Anne's through the first day.

lish part-time and now in charge of grades 7-8, full-time, said regrettably, "This was going to be the beautiful year, we said to ourselves. That's what we said last year then Sister Albertine got sick."

Father John Healy, pastor of St. Anne's, expressed the determination that the school would continue without a break.

Two nuns from the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Rochester came down to Palmyra to assist lay teachers during the first week of classes. They were Sisters Jamesine Riley, a community councilor, and Mary David McCall, regional superior.

Classes the first day went off well; so well, in fact, that in the halls after school let out the pupils could be heard grumbling about the length of their assignments.

Making the Diocese Run

Toward a Pastoral Council

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

In his spacious, shady, living-room-office, Msgr. Donald J. Mulcahy enthusiastically discussed his new position as executive secretary of the formation committee for the diocesan Pastoral Council.

"Like any brand new job it's what you make of it and the challenge is in the development of it," he said. "The pastoral council itself is actually down the road somewhere. The immediate thought is to create parish councils."

Msgr. Mulcahy explained that the creation of the diocesan representative council was prompted by a resolution from the priests' council. They asked Bishop Joseph L. Hogan to mandate parish councils, immediate cooperation among parishes on a regional basis, and regionalization according to a plan proposed by Father Albert Shamon, vicar for education.

Fr. Raymond Nolan Dead; Served Geneva 35 Years

Geneva — Father Raymond P. Nolan, 63, pastor of St. Stephen's Church for 18 years, was buried in St. Mary's Cemetery here last Friday following the Mass of the Resurrection at the parish church he had served for almost his entire priesthood.

Sick and incapacitated for many months of the past year, he died in Geneva General Hospital, after a brief illness, on Tuesday, Sept. 7, 1971.

Father Nolan, ordained in 1934, came to Geneva two years later as assistant pastor, following a brief appointment at St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua.

Three years later he was made principal of De Sales High School, a post he held until June, 1953.

He became pastor of St. Stephen's in 1953 after the death of Msgr. William H. McPadden.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan was principal concelebrant of the funeral Eucharist for Father Nolan, assisted by priests who had served as curates at St. Stephen's and priest-classmates of the deceased.

Bishop Hogan lived for a time at St. Stephen's and worked under Father Nolan, whom he succeeded as principal of De Sales High School from 1953-55.

Father Richard A. Hart of Sacred Heart Cathedral, a former assistant at St. Stephen's and chaplain of De Sales, between 1958 and 1969, preached the funeral homily.

Applying the theme of "Christ, the Good Shepherd" to the life of Father Nolan, he emphasized the pastoral concern and personal love which marked his 35 years of priestly service to adults and youth in Geneva.

Father Nolan's role in the spiritual and educational life of his parish was consistently progressive. One of his first projects was the organization of the St. Stephen's Club which became one of the best known social clubs in Geneva prior to World War II.

As a builder he had an active role in the enlargement of De

Sales High School in 1950, replacing a wing of the building which had been destroyed by fire in 1943. He directed the erection of a new, elementary school building for the parish in 1956 and the modernizing of the original plant which had been overcrowded.

Father Nolan's interests went beyond parochial boundaries frequently as he participated in civic events. Active in the Geneva Youth Bureau all through the 40's, he served two terms

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Notre Dame Makes Appointments

Elmira — Four new department heads have been named and seven instructors added to the staff of Notre Dame High School, here.

The new department heads are Sister Dorothy Becker, theology; Sister Mary Berchmans, business; Sister Mary Gerard Erb, mathematics; and Mrs. Ann Yeagley, home economics.

New instructors for the current school year are Douglas Daher, theology; Mrs. Judith Daher, Spanish; Sister Mary Edmund Gauthier, English and yearbook adviser; Roger Hartman, science and journalism; Michael Johnston, guidance counselor and head football coach; Sister Raymond Joseph Griffin and Sister Mary Leona Didas, choral music.

Sister Griffin and Sister Didas also will work within the new Chemung County Catholic School System in musical training. The Catholic school system is the first consolidated Catholic educational program in the diocese.

It includes all Catholic elementary schools and one newly-created Catholic junior high school located in Chemung County. Notre Dame is not part of the consolidation program.

participate in the renewal of the church according to Vatican II.

"The third group is studying regionalization, and has been interviewing pastors to learn their impressions. And the fourth group has been supplying services to existing parish councils. Presently, there are about 60 out of the 150 parishes in the diocese.

"The whole thrust of Vatican II calls for a renewal and I feel my whole experience has been in dealing with people in charities at a community level," explained the former director of Catholic Charities. "I've worked with at least 20 boards of directors over the years and there can be an excitement in organizing the involvement of the people of God in the Church.

"I think the signs of the time demand that we involve people (Continued on Page 2B)

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