



Father Robert Kreckel and John Holmes, head of the state Black Lay Catholic Caucus take notes at meeting on council.



Some members of Holy Cross's parish council who assisted in making retreat to start their council's work were Mrs. John Oster, vice-president; Father Robert O'Neill,

## Pastoral Council .

"It is highly desirable that in each diocese a pastoral council be established over which the diocesan bishop himself preside and in which specially chosen clergy, religious and lay people will participate. The function of this council will be to investigate and to weigh matters which bear on pastoral activity, and to formulate practical conclusions regarding them."

This pronouncement from Vatican II, first promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1965, catalyzed one of the most important organizational changes in the history of the Rochester diocese, a change which even today is occurring in many ways and in many places.

Rochester does not yet have a pastoral council but will in a year or two.

The reason for this, according to Msgr. Donald Mulcahy, executive secretary of the Pastoral Council Formation Committee, is that a pastoral council cannot be suddenly called into being: to be successful, the council must be preceded by "a personal and parish renewal."

Msgr. Mulcahy works under Auxiliary Bishop John E. McCafferty, director of the formation committee.

"We base our work," says Msgr. Mulcahy, of the formation committee, on the establishment of parish councils, then on regional cooperation between the parishes. Once we've got that, we can have the pastoral council."



Richard Dement addresses meeting.



Father Daniel Brent looks at suggestions for future of church.



Msgr. Mulcahy works in study on preparations for pastoral council.