

Priests' Council Delves Into Knotty Problems

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

The Priests' Council decided last week to recommend a revised interim emergency fund plan for schools to Bishop Joseph L. Hogan.

The 18-member council, along with the bishop, spent a grueling day at Becket Hall on an agenda with more controversial issues than they ever had faced in one day.

Among the issues on the agenda, that Father James Moynihan, chancellor, called "way too long" were the Council of Inner City Parishes (ICP) resolution for the merger of St. Patrick's parish with neighboring St. Anthony of Pauda; the CIC's resolution for the strengthening of the Spanish Apostolate; recommendation to the bishop on the funding of the inner city schools' cost increases, and a raise in Sisters' salaries.

The emergency funding plan has been controversial since it was first proposed to the priests in January. It has met with negative reaction wherever Father Daniel Brent, superintendent of schools, has presented it. But, it has also been accepted, for lack of any other plan.

The original so-called Driscoll Plan, which came from an ad hoc committee of the Interim Diocesan Education Commission (IDEC), was revised by Father James J. Marvin, pastor of St. Ambrose, who was a member of the Driscoll Committee.

The plan calls on parishes that want to keep their schools open to help each other. Father Marvin did not change the original concept of parishes contributing to a central money pool, but the way assessments would be figured.

Father Brent, Sister James

Lynch, assistant vicar of education, and Sister Rosemary St. Peter, principal of St. Ambrose school and chairman of the IDEC, attended the meeting to answer any questions raised.

After the priests reported their block votes on the emergency fund, Father Brent said: "I don't know whether to laugh or to cry at the priests' reaction. They all want to keep their schools but they don't want any plan."

Msgr. George Cocuzzi, pastor of Holy Family and chairman of the Priests' Council, stopped the discussion triggered by the financial plans which lasted for most of the afternoon session, past the adjournment time, saying: "I want to get it down to one specific motion so we can get through the agenda."

In the end, a motion to recommend the revised interim plan to Bishop Hogan was accepted, with the condition that it would be reviewed before the end of the first year of operation, and would not last any longer than two years.

The result of the presentation by Father Charles A. Bennett, pastor of St. Anthony's and administrator of St. Patrick's, and Father Raymond Booth of Mt. Carmel was the resolution that the Pastoral Office will draw up some guidelines for possible parish mergers which will be submitted to the Priests' Council for approval.

In the last ten minutes of the half-hour overtime it was decided the Sisters' salary would be raised \$300, to \$2450 a year. The increase in cost for inner city schools was discussed, but sent back to the agenda committee to be brought up again next month for a final decision.



L-r.: Sister Josepha Toomey, Mrs. Nancy Rubery, and Father Peter Bayer.

National Human Development Criticised by Local Office

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

"The Rochester Human Development Office and the Monroe/Wayne County task force could have gone to Washington and operated a better campaign," Father Peter Bayer, a member of the task force, said critically of the national Human Development organization.

The Washington office was set up last year for five years by the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops for two reasons, Father Bayer explained. One, for education, for the regeneration of the Church according to the Gospel; and second, for fund raising. They are looking for new, innovative ideas in organizations and favor organizations hurt by prejudice.

"But they were just not organized, they had no clear criteria for accepting proposals, and they are still not geared for such a major campaign," he continued.

According to the national campaign plan, each diocese retains 25 per cent of funds collected for work on the local level. Rochester covers 12 counties divided into eight task forces which solicit, validate and direct funds, sending proposals to the national office or funding them locally.

The Monroe/Wayne County task force alone considered more than 50 proposals, worth more than \$1.5 million, from various grassroots organizations.

There is a 40-member task force in Washington that reviews the proposals and decides who will receive funds requested.

Sister Josepha Toomey of Rochester's Human Development office said, "Probably the reason the Rochester diocese gets as much money as we do is because of the organization of the Monroe/Wayne County

task force. "But," she continued, "last year our highest priorities were ignored."

The task forces also are involved in counseling, advising organizations on how to write proposals, organize their budgets and look to the future instead of organization from crisis to crisis.

Mrs. Nancy Rubery of Palmyra, a member of the task force, said, "A lot of counseling goes on after a proposal is

turned down. We help the group resubmit or suggest other avenues to funds from other agencies. It is really frustrating to see the innovative plans not get the money needed to even begin."

The Monroe/Wayne County task force consists of 17 laymen and women and priests. Task forces are independent and autonomous with the Human Development office serving as a resource and dealing with the Washington office.

St. Luke's Passion Set for Sunday

The Passion according to St. Luke, frequently attributed to Bach, will be performed at Christ Church Cathedral, Sunday, March 19, at 4 p.m.

The music will be performed by the Cathedral Choir under

the direction of organist Scott A. Drexler. The arias will be sung by Miss Terry Radomski, Miss Marie York, Richard York, Richard Reif and Tom Plant. Musicians for the work are Michael Rechel and Ted Pauls.



Father John D. Dillon addresses Priests' Council on problems confronting Spanish Apostolate he directs.

One Woman's Fight

(Continued from Page 7)

from a person's individuality. "If I had to live in one of those places, I would be senile in no time," says Mrs. Mullaney.

One difficulty facing Mrs. Mullaney's suggestion is the question of property inheritance. When an owner of a senior housing unit dies, do his children inherit his property? This is a problem that would have to be solved by legislators,

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so that the home could be sold to other senior citizens.

Mrs. Mullaney has two children, a son, 48, in Rochester, and a daughter, 43, in Massachusetts. When asked if she would consider living with one of them, she replied, "No. I think seniors are better off living away from their children. Seniors should be on their own."

She also feels that older people should live with older people. That is why she is trying

to do something about housing for the aged.

Mrs. Mullaney says "If our homes could be taken for a fair sum of money and be sold to the large families who need them, then the older people could buy the small homes."

She has lived in her present home for 31 years. "I have so many happy memories here," she says, "but if, I have the chance to move into a smaller home, I'll take my memories with me."

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