

'War Tax' Refusal Stirs Discussion

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

Last Sunday, Immaculate Conception's parish council announced that the parish no longer would pay the federal excise tax on its telephone bill, as a protest against the Vietnam War. This action triggered questions from other war protesters.

Some have called Immaculate's protest fraudulent, pointing out that churches are tax-exempt. "What kind of civil disobedience or moral commitment is it when no risk is involved?" asked one disgruntled private citizen who has refused to pay

the excise tax for a couple of years.

The Internal Revenue Service reported that out of the three parish telephones at Immaculate Conception, a federal tax is due on only one of them.

School phones are tax-exempt and "there is definitely no excise tax due on convent phones if the convent houses teachers," Joseph Hofman, district representative of the IRS said. "But the federal tax does pertain to the rectory phone, and this tax is due and payable."

This alters the original state-

ment by the Parish Council that there were three taxed phones in question.

Hofman said that the telephone excise tax is an insignificant amount of money in the total collected in federal taxes. And he listed income tax, and excise taxes on tires and fuel oil as adding as much to the war effort as the telephone tax does.

Father Robert G. Kreckel, pastor, explained for all who questioned the moral commitment of Immaculate Conception that "it is not just a financial question. Our purpose is to demonstrate the fact that we are all

constantly supporting the war, though we may not know it."

When told that the IRS said the only federal tax due from the parish is one, on the rectory phone, Father Kreckel replied that they have in the past been paying federal tax on the convent phone also.

He explained how the whole thing evolved.

"In 1969 Immaculate Conception came out publicly against war and racism. And recently we received a letter from Mr. Peter Schram, a member of the parish and a member of Ecu-

menical Concern for Peace and Justice, asking us to follow through on the three-year-old resolution."

Schram suggested three possible ways to demonstrate protest: refuse to pay the telephone excise tax; support Episcopal Bishop Robert Spears' Holy Week pilgrimage to the Harrisburg Trial; sell any stock in a war-related industry.

"We are acting on all three suggestions since it is not enough to say you are against war, you must act on that belief," Father Kreckel said.



Robert Joynt, Jr., a McQuaid senior, leans over the board to give seventh graders Tom Wiese and Mark Freeman a tip on chess as part of the mini-course he taught for a month at St. Louis parochial school in Pittsford. Weekly courses on topics from law enforcement to knitting to first aid were given.

'Fairness' the Goal Of GEM Court Project

"Fairness" in arrest and court procedures is the concern of the Genesee Ecumenical Ministries' new Judicial Process

Cathedral Holy Week Schedule

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will be principal concelebrant and preacher at the 10 a.m. Mass Easter morning at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

He will open the cathedral's solemn ceremonies of Holy Week as principal concelebrant of the Mass of the Chrism at 11 a.m. tomorrow, Holy Thursday.

Auxiliary Bishop John E. McCafferty, cathedral rector, will offer the concelebrated Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 Holy Thursday night, and also the Easter Vigil Mass, with the cathedral priests, at 7:30 Holy Saturday night.

Bishop Hogan will preside at the solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, which begins at 1:30 p.m. Good Friday.

Commission.

"Lack of confidence in the court system is why we began," said Mrs. John Mackey of the Church Women United Staff, who is commission coordinator. "It was suggested that citizens in the courtroom would be a good thing. We are concerned with fairness, that the accused and complainants be given more information, and that legal jargon be translated into laymen's understanding."

The new commission, headed by the Rev. Jay Leshner, pastor of Mt. Hor United Presbyterian Church and a member of the Rochester Interfaith Jails Ministry, will act as a liaison agency for numerous other groups concerned with work in prisons, and better police and community relations.

Mrs. Mackey explained that this commission would be an extension of the task force on courts begun by the Church Women United and the Interfaith Jails Ministry in 1970.

But the main thrust of the commission will be educational. (Continued on Page 8)

Solemn Blessing of Oils Scheduled at Cathedral

The solemn blessing of the Holy Oils will take place at the Mass of the Chrism in Sacred Heart Cathedral 11 a.m. tomorrow (Holy Thursday).

All priests of the diocese are invited to participate in the Mass. The pastoral office also suggested that "it would be highly appropriate to have pastors and members of parish worship committees in attendance," according to a letter addressed to diocesan priests from Father James M. Moynihan, chancellor.

Father Michael Conboy, the bishop's secretary, said that this was the first time laymen were specifically invited to the ceremonies.

According to a provisional text of the Roman Pontifical, published this year by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Mass of Chrism is "a significant sign of ecclesial unity" manifesting "the unity of the bishop with his priests."

"The subsequent use of the blessed oils in the churches of the diocese is another sign of the relationship of the bishop to each of the congregations of the diocese which he serves with the common effort of the priests."

Chrism is a mixture of oil and perfumes.

The significance of chrism is that "by baptism Christians are plunged into the paschal mystery of Christ; they die with him, are buried with him, and rise with him; they are sharers in his royal and prophetic priesthood. By confirmation Christians receive the spiritual anointing of the Spirit who is given to them," the Pontifical says.

There are two blessed oils which also figure in the Mass—the oil of catechumens and the oil of the sick.

The first oil is used in the baptism rite and the second, for the anointing the sick.

Concelebrants for the Mass, representing various areas of the diocese, include: Msgr. Richard K. Burns, pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle; Msgr. Joseph J. Sullivan, pastor of Holy Family, Auburn; Father John J. Leary, pastor of St. Mary's, Elmira; Father Albert J. Riesner, CSSR, rector of St. Joseph Church, Rochester; Father Robert C. MacNamara, pastor of St. Ann's, Hornell; Father William H. Hickley, assistant pastor of Church of the Annunciation; Father William J. Graf, assistant pastor of St. Thomas More; Father Eugene P. Sweeney, assistant pastor of St. Patrick's, Corning; Father Robert C. Bradler, assistant

pastor of St. Augustine's; Father M. Gerard Hafner, assistant pastor of Our Lady of Mercy, Greece; Father Donald Curtiss, assistant pastor of St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls; Father David Mura, assistant pastor of Immaculate Conception, Ithaca.

Deacons for the Mass are: Rev. Mr. William Darling, Rev. Mr. Joseph Hart, Rev. Mr. Paul Ryan, Rev. Mr. Donald Schwab, Rev.

Mr. John Turner, Rev. Mr. Jack Zimmerman, Rev. Mr. Roger Villiard.

Subdeacons for the Mass are: Robert Kennedy, James Hewes, Gregory Bowen, Jeremiah Moynihan, Robert Gaudio, Ronald Antinarelli, Dennis Shaw.

Assisting Father Conboy are Father Bernard Carges, the cathedral master of ceremonies, and Rev. Mr. Thomas McKeown, seminary master of ceremonies.

Father Murphy Takes D.C. Post

Father David M. Murphy, vice rector and academic dean at St. Bernard's Seminary, has been named executive secretary of the National Catholic Education Association's seminary department.

He will leave Rochester at the end of the school year to work from an office in Washington, D.C. In his new post, he will be, ex officio, a consultant for the U.S. Bishops' committee on priestly formation and liaison with the American Association of Theological Schools, a professional accrediting agency.

"The post will require a good bit of traveling in the United States and Canada, in an attempt to bring about improvement in theological education," Father Murphy said.

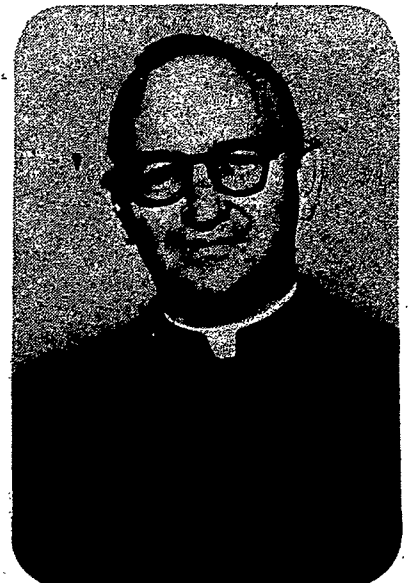
He will "have an opportunity," he added, "to help seminaries do more long-range planning and to involve themselves in increased cooperative ventures, both among Catholic seminaries and on an ecumenical level."

Father Murphy, a professor of dogmatic theology at St. Bernard's since 1965, was educated for the priesthood at St. Andrew's Seminary and Gregorian University, Rome. He was ordained in December, 1953.

He took a master of arts degree at Cornell in 1956 and a PhD. in theology at the University of Ottawa in 1971.

His doctoral dissertation was a study of the ecumenical theology of an Anglican theologian, F. D. Maurice.

Having received the STL degree (Licentiate in Sacred Theology) from Gregorian University in 1954 and his master's at Cornell, Father Murphy returned to Rochester as professor of classics at St. Andrew's, from 1956 until 1965.



FR. MURPHY

Since 1967 he has been a consultant to the U.S. Bishops in the writing of their program for seminaries, particularly in the matters of field education and pastoral training, and ecumenical cooperation. He is consultant theologian in the formation of pastoral and diocesan councils here.

He is an advocate in the diocesan Marriage Tribunal, chairman of the Eastern Seminaries Deans Conference and a member of the St. Bernard's board of trustees. He also works on a committee of the American Association of Theological Schools that is developing new standards for theological degrees in this country and Canada.

In addition to his many academic and professional activities, Father Murphy has had pastoral experience as moderator for Newman clubs at the Eastman School of Music and Wells College in Aurora, and as administrator of St. Patrick's

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