

Abortion, School Aid Hot Albany Issues



Bishop Joseph Hogan and Father Daniel Holland

Renewal Year Director Named

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan announced today another step toward fulfillment of his goal to establish a Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Hoping to encourage parishes and other agencies to undergo a process of self-examination, Bishop Hogan has appointed Father Daniel F. Holland to be director of the Year of Renewal. The appointment is effective May 15.

Earlier this year the Bishop called for a "Year of Renewal," beginning in September 1972, as a period of time in which he hoped that parishes would re-examine their Christian Mission in light of the contemporary world; that parishes would evaluate their present structures, policies and practices; that parishes would make appropriate

decisions for continuance and/or change in their current policies.

It will be a year of reflection and study — for priests, laity and religious — to become more aware of the teachings of Jesus and of his His Church and their implications for living in today's world.

After six years in the diocesan Office of Religious Education-CCD, Father Holland will take on this new apostolate with the already active Pastoral Council Formation Committee, under the leadership of Bishop McCafferty, episcopal moderator and Msgr. Donald J. Mulcahy, executive secretary.

Among Father Holland's major tasks in the coming year will be the development of self-study programs for parish coun-

cils; the design of training programs for Regional Council Committees; the design of feedback systems to the Formation Committee; the design of four Clergy Conferences. He will work in close collaboration with al will lead to a Diocesan all diocesan departments and their personnel.

Bishop Hogan plans that the Year of Renewal will lead to a Diocesan Synod which will actively involve representative groups of laity, religious and priests in determining diocesan laws and statutes, which will guide the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Rochester, as it searches for better ways of preaching the Gospel Message of God's Loving Concern for all men. The decade of the 70s will see an always renewing Church, praying, teaching and serving.

Presstime Picture

Abortion — Proponents of repeal feel it will pass in Senate and is within a few votes of Assembly passage. It is ready for debate in both houses. Governor has said he will veto repeal and has introduced his own modification reducing the time limit from 24 weeks to 18 weeks.

Private School aid — Has passed the Senate where Sens. William Smith, Thomas Laverne, James Powers and Theodore Day of the diocese voted in favor. Governor has introduced an amendment changing the tax credit clause to tax deduction. Ready for Assembly debate where passage is expected. Governor's approval expected.

President Nixon Backs Repeal

Albany — Abortion emerged as the most controversial and hotly debated issue facing the State Legislature as it tried to handle a flock of major bills in its closing days.

An unorthodox intervention by President Nixon in favor of repeal of the liberalized law heightened the drama as those on both sides of the question stepped up their campaigns in the waning days of the session.

In a letter to Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York, the President said, "I would personally like to associate myself with the

convictions you deeply feel and eloquently express."

Acknowledging that "this is a matter for state decision outside federal jurisdiction," the President's letter followed by a day his rejection of two major recommendations of his Commission on Population Growth. These called for liberalized abortion laws in all states and a policy of making contraceptive devices widely available to teenagers.

Meanwhile as debate became imminent a State Catholic Committee spokesman in Albany had

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School Aid Bill Gets Senate OK

Albany — The Senate last week passed a \$33 million private school aid bill and sent it on for debate in the Assembly where passage is expected.

Gov. Rockefeller, who has indicated his support of the measure, has sent a chapter amendment to the bill passed by the Senate, changing the tax credit proviso to tax deduction.

The measure will provide aid through grants for school repairs and maintenance, and in tax credits for persons with taxable incomes as high as \$20,000 a year.

In 1970 and 1971, the Legislature approved, and Gov. Rockefeller signed into law, bills that gave state money for teachers'

salaries and mandated services. Both were declared unconstitutional by federal courts.

The new bill sets five methods by which nonpublic schools might receive aid, according to Sen. John C. Caemmerer, R-Nassau:

- Health and safety grants, largely for custodial and maintenance costs — directly to the school on a per capita basis.

- Tuition assistance for children of low income families — to the parents. Payments would be given in amounts of \$50 a year for each child in grades 1-8, and \$100 a year for each child in grades 9-12. Parents would be eligible if their net income is less

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Cenacle Sisters... What Are They Up To?

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Yes, the Sisters of the Cenacle are still very much involved in the spiritual life of the diocese, including their well-known women's retreat program.

Some confusion may have arisen about the Cenacle's role since the recent end of the semicloister of the nuns there.

Though involved more in community affairs now, spirituality remains the hallmark of the Sisters, as Courier-Journal photojournalist Laurence Keefe found out in preparing this week's centerfold. Look there for an up-to-date report on an order that blends the eternal and the contemporary.

In one of the "hot" stories of the week, diocesan priests met to air views concerning methods of keeping schools open. Staff writer Barbara Moynehan and photographer Keefe give you a word-picture of the action on PAGE 7.

On PAGE 3, Bishop Joseph L. Hogan further dis-

cusses the formation of the Pastoral Council which he described in last week's issue as the "key to the future."

In addition are our three new features: In This Corner by George Beahon, PAGE 15; The Open Window by Father Louis Hohman, PAGE 14, and What Do You Think by Charles Randisi on PAGE 7.