

# The Bishop's Letter

My dear People:

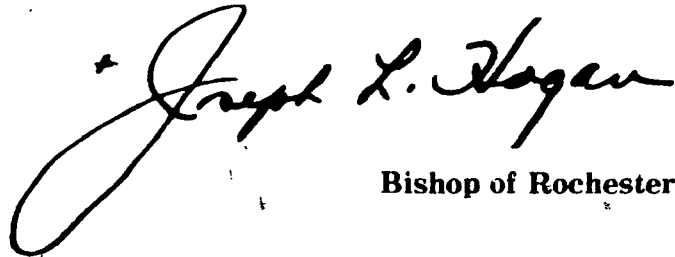
We are extremely pleased with the positive reception that the United States Congress has given to the amendment incorporating non-public schools into the new flood relief legislation. I join the people of the flooded communities in thanking you for your response to my earlier appeal for letters to your representatives on this matter. Our country can be proud of the responsiveness of its government to real need in this area.

Once again, though, I solicit your help, this time at the State level. Parents and communities affected by the flood are in a poor position to maintain the operation of their Catholic schools during this period of dislocation and reconstruction. They look to the State to find ways to assist them in this.

On their behalf, then, I ask you to write to Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, and to the leaders of the legislature, Senator Earl W. Brydges and Assemblyman Perry B. Duryea, Jr. Urge them to explore ways of bringing the resources of the State to bear on the educational needs of the Elmira and Corning areas.

With a blessing, I am

Devotedly yours in Christ,



Bishop of Rochester

## Bishop Lauds Congress

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by the House did not have the same amendment. Disparities were being worked out in conference. J. Alan Davitt, executive secretary of the New York State Council of Catholic School Superintendents, said he

expected the final bill to retain the Senate amendment, which President Nixon had asked for.

Like Bishop Hogan, Davitt referred to the "damaged economy" of the Southern Tier and said that further funds would be needed to keep the schools in operation.

## Senator Powers Acts To Aid Flooded Schools

Private schools in the Elmira-Corning area damaged by the floods which followed Hurricane Agnes, may get state aid under an emergency provision of the state legislature.

Senator James Powers, state Democratic senator from the 54th district, an area undamaged by the flood, said last week he had written to five financial leaders of the state legislature "to exercise the power granted to them under Section 94 of the state financial law to appropriate this needed financing to the schools of Corning and Elmira."

"Section 94 is explicit that these legislative leaders have the power to appropriate money for emergencies and unanticipated expenditures which are deemed necessary and essential to the proper rendering of governmental services by the state."

Powers expects to hear tomorrow from these leaders on his proposal.

He also urged concerned civic financial leaders of the state state representatives and the five financial leaders of the state legislature with their views on aiding the flood-stricken schools.

Of the state action, Powers said that "students unable to attend parochial school will have to attend the public schools at a much greater expense to the taxpayer. It is absolutely unjustifiable to certify the parochial schools for operation as well as to regulate many day-to-day activities and yet turn a deaf ear to this valid and crying need."

Recipients of Powers' letter were Speaker Perry B. Duryea Jr., Assemblymen John E. Kingston and Willis H. Stephens, and Senators Warren M. Anderson and Earl W. Brydges.

## Where to Write

On the state aid measure, you are urged to write your local state representatives and the following:

Speaker Perry B. Duryea, Jr., State Capitol, Albany, N.Y., 12224

Assemblyman John E. Kingston, State Capitol, Albany, N.Y., 12224

Assemblyman Willis H. Stephens, State Capitol, Albany, N.Y., 12224

Senator James E. Powers, State Capitol, Albany, N.Y., 12224

Senator Warren M. Anderson, State Capitol, Albany, N.Y., 12224

Senator Earl W. Brydges, State Capitol, Albany, N.Y., 12224

Courier-Journal

# Priests Council OKs Study

By LAURENCE E. KEEFE

Although the starting date is indefinite, the diocese will soon begin training a corps of permanent deacons.

The permanent diaconate is an ancient form of the priesthood which was called back into existence by the second Vatican Council.

The diocesan priests' council voted unanimously in their monthly meeting at St. Bernard's Seminary Aug. 8 to ask a committee of seven priests to present them with a detailed plan for training permanent deacons.

A permanent deacon can be married and has the faculties of distributing Communion, witnessing marriages, reading the Gospel at Mass and with special training, preaching. He is usually older than candidates for the priesthood when ordained, and can be assigned either full or part time work in his parish.

Members of the committee to plan diaconate training are Fathers Edwin Metzger, Joseph P. Brennan, Robert Kreckel, Paul Brennan, Raymond Booth, Laurence Tracy, and John Dillon.

## Closed Shrine Not Abandoned

Necedah, Wis. — Dr. Peter O'Loughlin, a psychiatrist, is one of several persons who regularly visit the shrine here called "Queen of the Holy Rosary, Mediatrix of Peace," even though it was condemned recently by Church officials. He is also one of several newcomers to Necedah who have moved from other parts of the country to be near the shrine.

"I believe the Blessed Mother has been appearing here regularly," said Dr. O'Loughlin, who is on the staff of a nearby veterans' hospital. "I believe she has asked for prayer, penitence and the saying of the Rosary."

Dr. O'Loughlin is a member of an organization called "For God and My Country, Inc.," which has been ordered to stop promoting the shrine.

Bishop Frederick W. Froking of the LaCrosse, Wis., diocese ordered a dozen statues and paintings of religious figures at the shrine to be shielded from public view. His action reaffirmed the position of the Church that it does not believe that Mrs. Mary Ann Van Hoof, 62, saw the Blessed Mother in 1949 and several times since.

Thousands of pilgrims seeking miracles and possibly a chance to see a vision of the Blessed Mother have visited the Shrine, located in a farm field on the outskirts of Necedah.

Mrs. Van Hoof has not been seen on the shrine grounds since the bishop visited here June 16.

## Sainthood Asked For Athenagoras

Richmond, Va. (RNS) — A Greek Orthodox priest here has proposed that the process be started to name late Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras I a saint. Father C. N. Dombalis of St. Constantine and Helen church said the Patriarch, who died on July 6 in Istanbul, was a "holy man" who symbolized the love of God.

Proclamation of an Orthodox saint, which in this case would have to be done by the Holy Synod of Constantinople (Istanbul), is a long process. There is generally first local veneration, followed by reports of miracles and extensive ecclesiastical investigation.



Photo by Laurence E. Keefe

Bishop Hogan and Msgr. Cocuzzi listen to Msgr. Krieg.

The council acted after hearing a report on the training of permanent deacons for the diocese of New York by Father Thomas Leonard of St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie.

"The permanent diaconate," said Father Leonard, "makes the Church personal" for the people.

"The liturgy and his liturgical duties," he said, "are secondary to the ministry of a deacon, which is to fill the prophetic role of teaching and governing."

Institution of a permanent diaconate, said Father Leonard, "is very flexible. A deacon responds to the needs specific to one community." This flexibility is of particular interest in the

Rochester diocese, where it is foreseen by most members of the priests' council that deacons will have a large role in ministering to minority groups. One group that has shown a particular interest in a permanent diaconate is the Council of Inner City Parishes.

The New York program during two years of evening classes trains deacons for part time work only, Father Leonard said. "There are not ten full time deacons in the country," he told the council.

Father Metzger, who has been involved in local studies of the diaconate, told the council however that he "would like to keep open the option of having full time deacons."

## Priests Council Elects To Due Process Boards

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of the Office of Human Development reported, on the financial status of flood relief and on long range relief plans.

"Human problems in the flooded areas will continue to be severe," he warned, citing crowded trailer parks where residences are often only ten feet apart and parking is inadequate.

The council should refrain from action on flood relief, he said, until the "bleak months" of September and October, when public attention will have died down, and other relief efforts are no longer so visible as at present.

Father Mulligan reported that \$103,000 raised the first Sunday after the flood had been completely disbursed. "We still do not have a good picture of exactly where it all went because there were no strict guidelines set up" and the money was distributed at the discretion of the local priests, he said.

The main thrust of Human Development work currently, he said, is Operation Rebuild. Unaffected parishes adopt a flood-stricken family and donate time and skills through the Human Development office to help use materials purchased with a federal loan.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, in response to questions from the floor, noted that diocesan assessments had been cancelled this year for parishes inundated.

Msgr. Gerard Krieg, official of the Diocesan Tribunal, reported on the rules for choosing bishops as laid down by the Council for Public Affairs of the Church in Rome in May, 1972.

These rules, he said, have the force of law in regulating the procedure of choosing new bishops. They "dovetail," he added, with a more recent report of the Canon Law Society of the United States.

Father Robert Kreckel, chairman of the Rochester Priests' Association coordinating board, was also present at the meeting. The association brought the documents to the attention of the council.

After some discussion, the council agreed that there existed some conflict between the Roman document and the report of the Canon Law Society.

Father James Schwartz, council member, cited a statement by the board of governors of the Canon Law Society which said that the Roman document is not in accord with Vatican II.

Monsignor George Cocuzzi, president of the council, noted that the two documents differed. The consultation of a bishop with his diocese recommended by the Roman document, he said, was "secret and not collective," while the Canon Law Society suggested "open and collective consultation."

Father Schwartz noted that "at least the issue has been surfaced. It's something we've tended to stay away from before."

With the approval of Bishop Hogan, the council voted unanimously to seek establishment of a "broader, more collective process" for selecting bishops, at the fall meeting of the Priests' Councils of New York.

## Hungary's Millenium

Brussels (RNS) — Cardinal Josef Mindszenty, exiled Hungarian Catholic primate, will celebrate a Mass at Sacred Heart Basilica here on August 27 to mark the 1,000th anniversary of the coronation of Hungary's first king, St. Stephen.

The 80-year-old cardinal, who lives in Vienna, Austria, at a seminary for Hungarian priests, traveled to Bamberg, West Germany, last May to participate in religious services commemorating the anniversary.

The exiled prelate was convicted of "treason and anti-state activities" in 1949 by the Hungarian Communist regime and sentenced to life imprisonment. He was freed by Hungarian "freedom fighters" during the brief 1956 uprising and took refuge in the U.S. Embassy in Budapest. Last September, Pope Paul VI prevailed upon the cardinal to leave Hungary.